Maryland Million: Where are they now? | Asmussen's Charles Town connection

Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred

Vol. 29, Issue 10
OCTOBER 2021

Wise Gal

Now retired, Anna's Bandit took Robbs on wild ride to Maryland Million, beyond

Country Life Farm celebrates 20 years at Merryland

Returning to his Merryland Farm from service in World War II, legendary Maryland horseman Danny Shea watches a set go in 1946.

Ellen B. Pons

Jerry Dzierwinski

Recent Find Stakes winner Somekindofmagician legged up at Merryland for trainer Gary Contessa and owners Nick and Delora Beaver's Bell Gable Stable.

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In this issue

Maryland Million: Anna's Bandit gets a proper sendoff

Sit down, settle in and read on. This is a racetrack tale you'll want to learn – about a husband/wife, owning/training team and a special mare who dazzled everybody everywhere she went. Maryland Million winner Anna's Bandit retires, and will be part of the show this month at Laurel Park. By Vinnie Perrone. Page 20

Where are they now? Million winners find second jobs

You saw them win multiple Maryland Million races, but now they event, foxhunt, trail ride and handle pretty much any task thrown their way. Admirals War Chest, Eighttofasttocatch, Phlash Phelps, Talk Show Man and Roadhog are winners even when they're no longer racing. By Sara Gordon. Page 25

Racetrack reports from around the region

Colonial Downs gets through a banner full season in Virginia, highlighted by Wootton Asset's Virginia Derby score and plenty more; Cynergy's Star wins a stakes at Timonium; Exculpatory and Jeff Runco shine on Art Collector's night at Charles Town; Don't Call Me Mary comes through for breeder at Parx Racing. Page 32

The Mean Queen makes her case

Five-year-old Irish-bred mare The Mean Queen deals a streak-busting loss to Snap Decision in Belmont Park's Lonesome Glory to (hopefully) set up an October rematch at Far Hills. By Joe Clancy. Page 48

Cover: West Virginia-bred and Maryland-sired star Anna's Bandit strikes a retirement pose at home on the farm. Photo by Sara Gordon.

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POST TIME

PICK-UP LINE.

Presque Isle Downs outrider Sydney Fried and her horse Queen's Escort stretch to catch up to a loose Night Time Ruler in front of some amazed fans at the Pennsylvania track before the second race Aug. 4. Night Time Ruler was a scratch, while Queen's Escort got to relive a bit of his racing days. The 12-year-old Bellamy Road gelding won 10 of 67 starts from 2012-17 .

Coady Photography

PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS
& CASINO

Say It Again

"She's got untold energy, which I do not. She's like a weanling just off her mother and from a family that runs through fences and things."
Trainer Mark Reid, returning a phone call while bragging on his granddaughter

"I have a mouthful of Cheez-Its, so you caught me at a bad time. If they ever need someone to endorse pepper-jack Cheez-Its, I'm the person."
Owner Grace Merryman, pausing an interview to finish a snack

"He's averaging me more earnings per start than I averaged in a year working for him."
Merryman, on her horse Exculpatory's bankroll compared to her time working for Reid years ago

"You can find horses on paper, but they don't all work out. It helps to know where they're coming from."
Trainer Neil Morris, about buying steeplechase prospects

MARK MAHAN/TOBA

Angie Moore (center) and daughter Sabrina Moore, breeders of Breeders' Cup winner Knicks Go, accept the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association's trophy for 2020 National Small Breeder of the Year from Susan Martin of The Jockey Club at the awards dinner at Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa Farm in Lexington, Ky., Sept. 11. Sabrina Moore acknowledged the Maryland Horse Breeders Association with helping them get started and credited the workers at their farm. "We're a small farm but it takes a lot of people, even at a small farm, to get us here," she said.

Correction: The article "Page Turners," a preview of this month's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale including consignor/breeder CandyLand Farm, that appeared in the September print edition has been updated in the edition available at midatlantictb.com.

GO FIGURE

3 Maryland-bred, Maryland-sired winners at Timonium Sept. 3 who raced for their breeders. I'm Gittin There won the first for breeder/owner/trainer Hamilton Smith; Ms. Haiti won the fourth for breeder/owner Athol Morgan; and Crouchelli won the eighth for breeder/owner/trainer Robert Vukelic.

8 Countries represented in the five-generation pedigree of Determined Kingdom, winner of the Jamestown Stakes at Colonial Downs Sept. 1. The 2-year-old gelding, bred in Virginia by Audley Farm, boasts relatives from the United States, Brazil, Germany, Australia, Ireland, Great Britain, France and New Zealand.

31 Mid-Atlantic-bred stakes winners between Aug. 14 and Sept. 6. Maryland and Pennsylvania led the way with nine each, followed by five for Virginia and four each for New Jersey and West Virginia.

18,700 Foals in the 2022 crop of registered Thoroughbreds as predicted by The Jockey Club in September. The total is 500 fewer than the 2021 foal crop estimate of 19,200. The projection is computed by using Reports of Mares Bred received by Aug. 1 for the 2021 breeding season.

NAMES OF THE MONTH

Good Story. Breeder/owner/trainer Mary Eppler's 2-year-old Maryland-bred filly (fourth at Timonium in her debut) is by Great Notion out of Read All About It.

Flight Risk. The 7-year-old gelding, now with Jamie Ness at Parx Racing, is out of And Away We Go.

Stay Hydrated. The 4-year-old Pennsylvania-bred gelding, whose 19 starts through August have come at Parx Racing, is by Stay Thirsty out of Zip Runner.

Asmussen recalls tie to West Virginia Breeders Classics

This summer at Saratoga Race Course, Steve Asmussen made everybody go back in time as he won the 9,446th race of his career to pass Dale Baird for the all-time lead among Thoroughbred trainers. For the record, Stellar Tap became the answer to a trivia question when he captured the fifth race (a 2-year-old maiden special) Aug. 7.

But don't try to stump Asmussen on the 28th victory of his Hall of Fame career.

"Rock House," he blurted out when asked about a race from almost 34 years in the past. Asmussen, in his second year of training, won the West Virginia Lottery Breeders Classic with 2-year-old colt Rock House. The win came on the inaugural West Virginia Breeders Classics night, Sept., 11, 1987 at Charles Town, and remains a special moment.

"You see who the jockey was?" Asmussen asked. "It doesn't get any better. My father. How about that?"

Indeed, Rock House was ridden to victory by Keith Asmussen—a feat duplicated last summer when Steve Asmussen's son Keith rode Inis Gluaire to victory at Lone Star Park.

"I won a race with my dad riding and a race with my son riding," Steve said, shaking his head. "Two Keiths. I've won a race with two Keith Asmussens riding. That's history."

The first made a little bit of history beyond the family too, helping launch the Breeders Classics program in West Virginia racing. Modeled after the Jim McKay Maryland Million, which was modeled after the Breeders' Cup, the West Virginia version attracted horses from the state's racetracks and beyond with five races and $250,000 in total purses that first year. Now, the night goes nine races deep with a total purse outlay of $1 million plus massive betting pools, live television coverage and more. This year, Classics night celebrates its 35th running Oct. 9 at Charles Town.

Like the big night, Asmussen's training career had to start somewhere.

Then 21, he was at Alabama's new Birmingham Turf Club with a string in 1987. He'd won a single race from 15 starts in 1986 and would win 30 of 167 the next year. Two-year-old Rock House, a $7,000 purchase by Ron Lance at the Texas yearling sale in 1986, got started early with a fifth in his debut March 7. He came back to win two weeks later, then spent five months on the shelf before finishing second in the Pine Ridge Stakes in late August. Off the three starts at Birmingham, the chestnut son of Belted Earl (Asmussen came up with the stallion too) shipped to Charles Town for the $25,000 West Virginia Lottery.

"I'm sure somebody pointed it out to me," Asmussen said of the rich opportunity. "Like, 'Hey, did you know this horse was a West Virginia-bred?' No. Oh thank you. I guess we're going to Charles Town."

Rock House shipped 700 miles north (from Alabama to Georgia, then Tennessee, Virginia and finally Charles Town) and won by a neck over nine rivals including heavy favorite Forbidden Words from the barn of trainer John McKee. Other trainers in the race included Randy Funkhouser, Donald Saville, Ray Norton, Vicki Allen, Louis Torreyson, William Goff Sr., Marlene Croy and Frank Smith Jr. The victory was Asmussen's second in a stakes, following Brite Trace's win in the $15,000 Cheaha Stakes at Birmingham in July, and the trainer's most lucrative victory of the year.

Asmussen remembers meeting announcer Costy Caras, thanks to an introduction by Birmingham announcer Larry Collmus. The other Birmingham/Charles Town connection at the time would have been Charlie McIntosh, then Birmingham's general manager and now Charles Town's director of racing.

Off the stakes victory, Rock House got sold to trainer Joe King and won the Tuscaloosa Stakes back at Birmingham in October and finished with 13 wins from 56 lifetime starts for earnings of $58,280. Bred by John T.L. Jones Jr. and Mill Run Farm, Rock House didn't match Rachel Alexandra, Curlin, Gun Runner, Midnight Bisou or any of the other stars trained by Asmussen in a career showing no signs of ending—but there's no doubting the horse's impact.

"That was my first trip to Charles Town, I wish I had another Rock House to go back," Asmussen said. "We've had a few stakes wins at Charles Town. It's been good to us. They do a good job. They keep us aware of that racing product, and we like going there."

—Joe Clancy

MILESTONES

Recognized: By the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association, North America's top owners and breeders representing 19 states and Canada at its national awards dinner Sept. 11 at Hill 'n' Dale at Xalapa Farm near Paris, Ky. The National Small Breeder of the Year award was presented to Marylanders Angie Moore and her daughter Sabrina Moore, breeders of multiple Grade 1 winner Knicks Go. Other regional breeders honored were John Bowers Jr. (New Jersey), Blackstone Farm (Pennsylvania), Franklin Smith Sr. (South Carolina) and Lazy Lane Farm (Virginia).

Sold: For an average of $338,750, eight Mid-Atlantic-bred yearlings at The Saratoga Sale Aug. 9-10 in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Each brought $200,000 or more–five were bred in Pennsylvania, two in Virginia and one in Maryland. The top two prices were bred by Blackstone Farm out of Bernardini mares–a Justify filly out of Essential Rose purchased by MyRacehorse for $625,000, and a Gun Runner colt out of Wembley bought by Lael Stable for $550,000. Blackstone also bred a $300,000 Arrogate colt out of Too Much Malibu, by Malibu Moon, bought by LRE Racing, and a Street Sense colt out of Bella Traviata (by Indian Charlie),

PHOTOS BY Z

A Justify filly bred by Blackstone Farm in Pennsylvania was the regional leader at the Saratoga select yearling sale, going to MyRacehorse for $625,000.

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purchased by Tom McCrocklin as agent for Champion Equine for $200,000. The four sold for a total of $1,675,000—Blackstone purchased all their dams as young mares for a combined $367,000.

Matched: The most wins for a jockey on a single card at Monmouth Park, Paco Lopez with seven, for the third time. Lopez equaled the record he set twice in 2014 on a 14-race card Aug. 28. Well on his way to an eighth Monmouth Park riding title, Lopez won five consecutive races (the fifth through ninth), added the 12th and matched his record in the 13th, the co-featured Miss Liberty Stakes, aboard Vigilantes Way. "I think I was very lucky today," said Lopez, who won the Grade 3 Charles Town Oaks aboard R Adios Jersey the night before. "When I looked at the horses I was riding today I felt good. I felt quite a few had a shot. I am very grateful to do this again. I guess the next thing I have to get to is eight wins here." Through Sept. 15 Lopez had won 88 races at Monmouth this year, 38 more than Isaac Castillo in second. The national all-time record on a single card is held by Eddie Castro with nine at Calder June 4, 2005.

Ended: A five-year winlesss drought, trainer Anthony Foglia, who sent out Justinspeightofit to a dead heat victory with heavily-favored Clemenza Sept. 10 at Monmouth Park, snapping a 208-race losing streak. "I don't win a race in how many years and it's only half a win?" Foglia said, laughing. "Sure it still feels good. I didn't even know I hadn't won a race since 2016, so it's nice to get one." Foglia's last win as a trainer came on July 10, 2016, with Divine Glory at Monmouth Park. He had been 0-for-27 this year. Although he has been training since 2002, doing so is more of an avocation for Foglia, who has seven horses stabled at Monmouth Park. "It's a good thing I make money somewhere else [with a packaging and steel drum business he owns]," he said. "That's how I can stay in this and keep my hand in this, doing something I enjoy." Justinspeightofit had been 0-for-33 entering the race. He broke to the lead and was clear in mid-stretch before the Kelly Breen-trained Clemenza made a final surge at the wire. Overall, it marked Foglia's 14th career win from 593 starters.

Won: The 2,000th race of his career, Timothy Kreiser, at Penn National Aug. 20 with Triple A. Plus, who recorded his second allowance win of the year for owner Joe Besecker. Six times Penn National's leading trainer, Kreiser once again sits atop the list, far outpacing Brandon Kulp with 85 wins to 51 (through Sept. 15). Kreiser has ranked in the top 20 in the nation by wins three times, his best season coming in 2017 with 142 wins to rank 19th. He sent out the winners of 100-plus races for seven consecutive years, from 2013-19, and is on pace to break the mark again in 2021. Training since 1993, Kreiser recorded his 1,000th win in May 2013. His top runners over the years include four-time stakes winner Power of Snunner.

THE RACING BIZ

The Independent Voice for Mid-Atlantic Racing and Breeding

Matt Halter—A breath of fresh air in this sport: Matt Halter, 20 and autistic, is Delaware Park's top supporter, Carol Cedeno's biggest fan—and a breath of fresh air in a sport that needs it. Frank Vespe tells the story.

At Colonial Downs, successes both fresh and familiar: The return of live racing to Colonial Downs after a challenging 2020 meet went better than just about anyone could have hoped, reports Vespe.

Top WVBC contenders coming into focus: Following Charles Town Classic night, the top contenders for the biggest races on West Virginia Breeders Classics night began to come into focus. Ted Black takes a look.

Kelsey Danner on the upswing: Vespe catches up with trainer Kelsey Danner, who has made the most of her first time at Delaware Park, winning six races and unveiling a couple promising 2-year-olds.

Backtracks—Zoffany's work of art: Well-traveled New Jersey-bred Zoffany took on the best turf horses of his time—and often prevailed, in the latest historic installment from Jennifer Kelly.

Knicks Go, Beren lead Midlantic-Bred Poll: Knicks Go and Beren retained the top spots in the two lists that comprise the Top Midlantic-bred Poll released Sept. 10.

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Pennsylvania-bred honored for dressage success

By Melissa Bauer-Herzog

LINDSAY BERRETH/THE CHRONICLE OF THE HORSE

When Sue Gallagher was looking for a horse after moving to New York from Australia, she wanted a Thoroughbred. A bit of internet surfing led her to Pennsylvania-bred Kaytee Mountain and the start of an adventure that would take them to the top level of dressage.

Kaytee Mountain had raced four times, but never came close to hitting the board. His connections listened and sent the gelding to a farm to be let down and sold as a 4-year-old. When Gallagher saw him, it was love at first sight and she handed over $3,000 to take "Tee" home.

"He literally went off the track and into a field to rest," she said. "The first time I saw him was in a field and he was galloping around like a baby does. He was super cute and fun and when they brought him in, he was really in your pocket. I just love that whole personality. We went to see him, me and my husband, and I bought him on the spot."

It's been 14 years now, a long way from those four starts—three at Penn National and one at Delaware Park over 16 weeks in 2007—for owners Robert Redcay and Bruce Hostetter. Bred by Deerview Racing Stable, the son of De Niro finished sixth, eighth and ninth twice while earning $250.

Clearly, racing was not his thing. Dressage is though, and in September Kaytee Mountain was named the Rood and Riddle Sport Horse of the Year by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association for his success.

Gallagher was told by multiple people that she needed to sell Kaytee Mountain and get a "real dressage horse" and in each case was baffled by the advice. Gallagher clearly remembers a trainer telling her she needed to "sell it" instead of using the gelding's name and she takes pride in her frequent placings.

"My first most memorable moment with him was going to Dressage at Devon with him in fourth level," Gallagher said. "Everyone was telling us that he would have a meltdown and not be able to handle the atmosphere. Meanwhile, he loved it. It was opposite to what everyone said. It was like he soaked it up and we were third in our test at Dressage at Devon."

Breeder Dennis Shappell, who sold Kaytee Mountain as a 2-year-old, was thrilled to learn of the horse's success.

"It's very rewarding to hear of him doing something good," said Shappell, who had a small farm in Schuylkill County, but is no longer in the Thoroughbred business. "I'm happy for him. I always tried to breed for longevity, but you couldn't predict that he would go on and do something like that. I was a small breeder and it's always good to hear about them."

The success was years in the making, and started with meeting Lisa Schmidt. Gallagher credits training with Schmidt as the moment she and Kaytee Mountain started learning dressage.

"She took me on and that was the real start of our journey together," Gallagher said. "I didn't know what the hell I was doing and he didn't know what the hell he was doing so there were no specific challenges with him at all, just learning together. I was learning as much as he was and now I've learned a lot. So now when I'm bringing on the [young horses] I have, I've learned everything so I'm all on."

While they had to leave Schmidt's program due to relocating, she says that in the years since training with Schmidt finding trainers to work with her and Kaytee Mountain has been a big part of her success. The early years of changes came due to the Thoroughbred bias but the changes as they moved up the levels came from Gallagher's desire to learn more about improving her riding.

"I think you just have to find people who can continue you on through your journey," she said. "Now I'm with Scott

Hassler and he's really prepped us for the true Grand Prix world, like being able to compete up there in the big world."

In her years of training Kaytee Mountain, Gallagher had achieved all of her goals but she had one more–to be accepted to Dressage at Devon at the Grand Prix level. All going well, he'll cross that off early this month.

"We've won every medal together, that's always been my dream with him–to get my bronze medal, my silver medal, and my gold medal with [the United States Dressage Federation]," she said. "Now he's just been accepted into Dressage at Devon for Grand Prix, which has always been my amazing end goal with him."

The TOBA award is another bonus. Gallagher felt so strongly about the honor that she traveled to Lexington, Ky., to accept it on behalf of her mount. She also said she felt it was important to go to the awards ceremony as it represented a huge step for Thoroughbreds in dressage.

"I think it's so wonderful because it shows people who were like me 14 years ago who have an OTTB and have a dream to keep going, just ignore the roadblocks like I did," said Gallagher, based in Swedesboro, N.J. "I hit so many roadblocks and I said, 'I'm just going to keep going' and I did. That's why I feel like him winning this award tells them to keep going and they can do it. He's so special but he's a horse, he's not always perfect, he can be really naughty in a test but you just keep going. I came to Lexington for this because I realize how much of an honor this is and how important this is to Thoroughbreds in dressage."

At age 18, Kaytee Mountain is close to retiring from a competitive life. After competing in Dressage at Devon, the Thoroughbred will be in charge of telling Gallagher what he wants to do. She says he is still acting like he'll want to compete next year, but he'll lead the way.

Through 14 years together, the veteran has continuously convinced his rider that Thoroughbreds can do just as well in dressage as purpose-bred horses. With that, he has made sure there are others to take his place when he retires. The five younger Thoroughbreds in Gallagher's program are led by 7-year-old gelding Express Charge owned by Candy Moraczewski.

Off the track for a little more than two years, that horse is recording high scores at third level and Gallagher expects he'll follow in Kaytee Mountain's footsteps.

Gallagher admits that not every horse will be a Grand Prix mount like Kaytee Mountain, but she doesn't believe a horse's breed should be a negative. The rider had some advice for any aspiring dressage rider who may be riding a Thoroughbred and hitting some of the same roadblocks she did.

"Some horses are going to be more natural than others, just like everything else but [Thoroughbreds] are so athletic," she said. "There's no reason they can't do dressage beautifully. It doesn't matter what you ride, just learn to ride it better. Go get yourself some good lessons, it doesn't matter what your horse is. If you want to ride dressage, go learn and go find someone who is really going to teach you well." ✹

Memories of McKay flood back in Olympic year

Jim McKay? Who?

Yes, there are now generations who don't realize of the stature of sportscaster Jim McKay. That in a time before social media, cell phones, personal computers, the internet and ESPN, there was limited access to finding out what was going on in the world of sports. You could read a newspaper. Or, for a nation yearning for a live sports fix every week on television, you could turn to Jim McKay.

On the ABC network's appropriately named *Wide World of Sports* McKay came into homes every Saturday to cover any and all manner of sports. The host of the show when it launched in April 1961, he delivered one of television's most iconic lines– "The thrill of victory. . . and the agony of defeat" for the show's opening credits. And what a thrill ride it was. McKay remained host for 37 years, until the show's cancellation in January 1998.

The face of *Wide World of Sports* was also the face of the Olympics for more than than four decades. McKay covered his first Olympic Games in Rome in 1960 and, in 2002 at age 82, he anchored his last–the Salt Lake City Winter Games, on NBC.

Inducted into the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum Hall of Fame, McKay is described as "the nation's first sports broadcasting star."

His Olympic Hall of Fame biography provides the prerequisite facts, but tells the story of the Munich 1972 Olympic Games that "solidified his standing as an elite anchor," during the tragedy that unfolded with the kidnapping and killing of 11 Israeli athletes. On the air live for 16 consecutive hours, McKay was "lauded for his poise and composure in a most trying circumstance; he became the first sportscaster to win an Emmy Award for news coverage."

McKay spent thousands of hours in front of the camera covering nearly every sport imaginable, but he was most passionate about horse racing and golf. He was the familiar face on network TV during the Triple Crown races–his post at Pimlico was the winner's circle cupola.

The resident of Maryland turned to his friends in the breeding and racing industries in the state after attending the inaugural Breeders' Cup in 1984. He pushed them to help create a similar program on the local level, and the Maryland Million was born. McKay's passion and determination made the Maryland Million a success–the event he created and nurtured was held for the first time Oct. 18, 1986, at Laurel Park.

McKay–who won nearly every broadcasting award, as well as every Thoroughbred industry award, was inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame, Sports Broadcasting Hall of Fame, and honored by the National Museum of Racing with a place on the Joe Hirsch Media Roll of Honor–promoted and celebrated the Maryland Million annually until his death in 2008 at 86. On Sept. 26, 2009, both the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates passed resolutions recognizing the renaming of the event "Jim McKay Maryland Million Day" which honors his legacy as a founder, fundraiser and tireless advocate.

That was Jim McKay.

– Cindy Deubler

Gold Scammer

MAGGIE KIMMITT

The day after Maryland-bred Trifor Gold won the Sussex Stakes at Delaware Park, Anchor and Hope Farm's Grace Merryman reached out to say she had "a fun Pensioner On Parade if you are looking."

"We're always looking," came the response.

Merryman offered "the quick version" of an introduction to Trifor Gold's dam, Gold Scammer.

"She's a 1999 model but looks like she's about 10. We always call her 'The Ageless Wonder.' And after she had Trifor Gold, we thought we were going to lose her. She was bleeding pretty bad. Louis [Grace's husband] sat in the stall with them for three days. Scammer laid down most of the time with blankets piled on her, and then one day she stood up, shook it off and was back to normal."

Gold Scammer was the first mare purchased by Alina Muther's Copper Penny Stables, also the breeder of Trifor Gold's sire Tritap. That son of Tapit died in 2016, but his sons and daughters have extended his reach despite just two small crops. Trifor Gold and Gold Scammer are doing their part.

"Several of her foals are in the $100,000 earnings range," Merryman said of the mare. "She has a yearling, and we retired her this year, and now she's with Chris Simmers doing some bareback trail riding and living out with another retired gelding."

Those are the CliffsNotes. A deeper dive into Gold Scammer's backstory was anything but quick. The 22-year-old dark bay mare was bred in Kentucky by James Spicer. By the Mr. Prospector stallion Gold Tribute, she was produced from the Deputy Minister mare Capital Coverup. She sold at Fasig-Tipton Kentucky's July yearling sale in 2000 for $90,000 to Joseph Lacombe Stables. Seven months later, she went through the ring as a 2-year-old at the Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's February sale where she was purchased by Jay Em Ess Stables for $150,000.

She was a California girl for her first two seasons, including a tough beginning when she clipped heels and fell in her debut at Hollywood Park. She won twice in a dozen starts at Hollywood, Santa Anita, Del Mar and Fairplex Park for trainer Ron Ellis before getting claimed for $32,000 by trainer Bill Spawr for owner Anthony Pyliotis in April 2003. Gold Scammer resurfaced two months later at Suffolk Downs for Pyliotis and trainer Robert Raymond.

She spent the next two years shuttling up and down the eastern seaboard where Pyliotis utilized several trainers. Gold Scammer ran at Philadelphia Park, Aqueduct, Pimlico, Laurel and Charles Town with one stop at Saratoga in 2004. She was claimed three times during the last six months of her career, making her final start for $4,000 at Charles Town for owner Robert Cole and trainer Stephanie Beattie. She finished last in a 10-horse field. After 39 races, her record was 9-3-6 with $113,101 earned.

Gold Scammer transitioned into her next chapter as a broodmare for Copper Penny. She delivered her first foal in 2008, a dark bay colt by Dance With Ravens named Capital Fellow. Trained by Mark Shuman and later gelded, Capital Fellow won nine races and earned $239,257 before going on to a career in the show ring. In 2019, he was the mount of Team Racing Kids rider Jessica Silver in The Real Rider Cup, a charity jumping competition which benefits Thoroughbred aftercare.

Gold Scammer's second foal was Capital Fellow's full-sister, Ravenesque. She placed in a stakes and won twice while earning $121,476. The Fairbanks gelding Freelander, foaled in 2010, won five of 43 starts and earned $233,442. Gaming, Gold Scammer's 2013 foal by Freud, became her fourth winner of more than $100,000. Trained for Copper Penny by Gary Gullo, Gaming raced exclusively in New York and won once from 12 starts, banking $101,660.

Trained by Shuman, 5-year-old Trifor Gold followed up his win in the Sussex with a fourth in Pimlico's Find Stakes Aug. 21. That check brought his earnings to $188,559 with four wins from 28 starts.

Gold Scammer's 2-year-old is Mercury Ten, a bay gelding by Bourbon Courage. He made his first two starts in August, finishing fourth in the Hickory Tree Stakes at Colonial Downs and the Dover Stakes at Delaware Park.

"I intended to just breed [and not race] Thoroughbreds, but I realized I needed to race in order to understand what I was breeding for," said Muther. "Sentimentally, I have kept all of Gold Scammer's foals to race. I have Trifor Gold, Mercury Ten and her last foal, a Bourbon Courage yearling filly. Ravenesque is now a broodmare in Kentucky. I hope to continue Gold Scammer's line through her two daughters."

Capital Fellow just won the Colonial Classic in New Jersey, and Muther hopes to watch him compete at Devon.

Earlier this summer, Gold Scammer left Anchor and Hope and moved to the nearby farm of Christine Simmers, the girlfriend of Louis Merryman's father, Edwin. Simmers' retiree, 15-year-old Remember Joe, needed company, and all agreed that the situation could be perfect for the pensioned mare. They were right; the transition has been seamless.

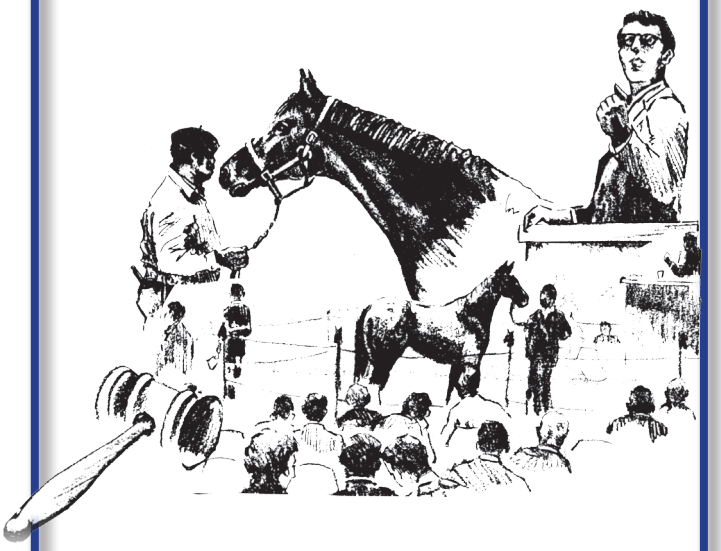
Grace Merryman isn't the least bit surprised. "This mare has been all class from day one," she said.

Simmers' homestead is a great retirement spot for any horse, and Gold Scammer gave her immediate seal of approval. The two-stall barn adjoins the garage and sits about 30 yards from the house. Stall doors are left open, and the horses come and go as they please throughout the property's fenced perimeter, which includes run-in sheds in each field. And they take full advantage of the set-up, according to Simmers.

"They only come in to eat," she said, "or to get away from the bugs, which they both hate."

Shortly after Gold Scammer arrived, Simmers used her stepstool to climb aboard bareback and take a quiet stroll around one of the paddocks with just a halter and shank. It's become a sweet part of their routine.

"I don't really even have tack–just that," she said, smiling and pointing to a western saddle on a rack in her garage. "But she hasn't batted an eye."



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TOD MARKS

Local tracks offer a leg up to racing careers

How did you get into racing? I love asking people that question. Sometimes it's pretty obvious. The Pons brothers got into racing because of their family. Same with the Bonifaces, Merrymans, Houghtons and so on.

But what about other people who didn't grow up on a breeding farm or work their summers baling hay for granddad? How did they get into racing? Frequently, the answer revolves around a local racetrack. You know the place—small, inviting, friendly—and all too often these days, closed.

For Kevin Kahkola, who now runs a breaking/training business in South Carolina, it was Detroit Race Course in Michigan. A high-school teacher suggested the horse-crazy kid get a job as a hotwalker, so Kahkola went to the racetrack. Kahkola, who'd never walked a hot horse, used it as a foundation to a career. Malathaat, the top 3-year-old filly of 2021, came through Kahkola's barn at Camden Training Center.

For Bruce Brown, now a trainer in New York, it was Maryland's Bowie Racetrack in his hometown. Brown wanted to work on the backside, and went—as you did then—to the track to show his eagerness. The guards made an announcement—as they did then—"Anybody who needs a hotwalker, please come to the stable gate." Brown's audition lasted one morning. He was told to come back the next summer. He did, got a job, parlayed it into jobs for John Forbes and Mike Hushion among others. Brown saddled his first runner in 2008. He has a stable of horses on the country's toughest circuit, won a stakes at Saratoga this summer and is closing in on $23 million in purse earnings.

Bowie played a role for Charlie Bonuccelli, owner of Timonium Juvenile Stakes winner Cynergy's Star, too. Bonuccelli grew up in the town, became a volunteer fireman and responded to ambulance calls at the racetrack what seemed like "three times a day." He went back as a fan, learned to bet, started an electrical contracting firm. Now he owns nine racehorses and a broodmare who will have her first foal next year.

Last year, I interviewed Francisco Serrano at trainer Mike Stidham's barn in Fair Hill. Serrano grew up in Chicago, learned about horses when his sister took riding lessons and got interested. He went to Arlington Park. Though not necessarily small, it's a great place to get started and Serrano showed up in Stidham's barn (the trainer had the biggest stable there, and you might as well start at the top). Now Serrano is a trusted assistant, running things the way Stidham wants and helping care for some of the country's top horses.

Bowie and Detroit closed in 1985 and 1998 respectively. A Michigan kid like Kahkola won't get a job at DRC. A Bowie kid like Brown or Bonuccelli could always travel to Laurel Park or Pimlico, but might just as well get a different summer job or respond to ambulance calls somewhere else. Arlington, which opened in 1927, appears poised to be closed by owner Churchill Downs Inc. after the 2021 meet. Where will the new version of Serrano work for the summer?

Racing needs all the racetracks it can get.

Think about major cities and their relationship to racing—Chicago once had six tracks, the New York area boasted eight or more at various times, California's Hollywood Park is gone. Boston used to have Suffolk Downs, part of a healthy New England circuit with tracks in Rhode Island, Vermont and New Hampshire. All gone. Regionally, New Jersey tracks Garden State Park and Atlantic City were closed years ago. Maryland lost Bowie and the "fair" tracks other than Timonium.

Think about all the people who were introduced to racing at those places. Now think about all the people who won't be introduced to racing at those places.

Steve Asmussen spent this summer becoming racing's all-time leading trainer (9,485 wins and counting) and winning five Grade 1 stakes at Saratoga. He grew up in a racing family, but even he started somewhere. In 1987, at age 21, he took a string to the first season at long-gone Birmingham Turf Club in Alabama. The new track raced from March through November, and of Asmussen's 167 starts during his second season as a trainer, all but seven came at the track. He won his first stakes there (the second came at Charles Town). His 1988 season focused on starts at Canterbury Park, Remington Park, Sunland Park and River Downs.

Somehow, those tracks are all still open—though none would be considered a major track. And that's the point. All played a role in making Asmussen a Hall of Famer, in getting him to that big moment at Saratoga this summer. And he knows it.

"If there weren't smaller racetracks, there wouldn't have been a me; if there weren't smaller racetracks, there wouldn't have been a me," he said, repeating it for emphasis, during a break in his morning action at Saratoga in September.

There wouldn't have been a lot of people. ✹

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Closing Act

Maryland Million heroine Anna's Bandit earns big sendoff

By Vinnie Perrone. Photographs by Sara Gordon

Came a whisper the other day, what they call racetrack steam. Got it on good authority.

They're plannin' this farewell fling at Laurel Park on Oct. 23. During the Jim McKay Maryland Million, the big show they put on every fall, they're gonna throw some kinda bash for this mare who caught a raw deal and still won like crazy. *Wicked big earner.* Kept the guy who owns and trained and bred her, Jerry Robb, on pins and needles five years. Gina Robb too. She and Jerry got hitched in 2017, day after Thanksgiving.

"The turkey got cooked," Jerry says. Cracks wise with the best of 'em, this guy. Made his wife laugh.

Anyway, word gets out that Jerry and Gina plan to retire this Anna's Bandit. Once word spills at the track, fuhgeddaboutit. That sets up the play. Georganne Hale, the track VP, starts thinkin' how to show the mare some respect, then head vet Dionne Benson corners her all perky and says somethin' like, "Did you hear the news about Anna's Bandit? Somebody should write something!" Now you've got this big to-do in the works, and a story to boot.

That's how it all happened, see. It's what they call a feel-good story, if you go for that kinda thing. Robb and the missus dropped a dime, and—bam!—a see-ya-later parade right there on the track, if you call a one-horse deal a parade. They wanna do it for the mare and all those folks she jazzed up with her monster stretch runs, stealin' the show from those poor frontrunners.

Maybe they coulda spiced up the invitation. Somethin' like, "Say goodbye to our little friend."

So when the time comes, forget the tote. Take the *Form* and ditch it. Lose the program. The horse'll come home a winner in some la-de-da stroll to the wire, without a jock. And folks'll cheer like hell for what she did, and what she did before, and what she still could do.

To tell the story right, you gotta hit the big stuff—the 11 stakes wins, the 800-grand haul, the Maryland Million Distaff she won on, like, no rest in '19. But the tale goes deep.

It all started with Jerry payin' attention. He's at Pimlico one day, end of May 2007, sees some longshot 2-year-old named Valin Time win a race for P.J. Pane. First-time starter, this filly.

Now, Jerry did a lot of good with young horses; still does. Says if you can get a 2-year-old race-fit early, you take an edge just by beatin' others to the punch. Not so easy, young horses still growin' and all. It's tricky givin' 'em enough work but not too much.

"They've gotta go through all their marching orders with no problems," Jerry says. "And it's so much easier earlier in the year. Every week goes by, it gets tougher and tougher and tougher. But I don't need everybody to know that."

He laughed after that like he told a joke, like everything was on-the-record legit.

Anyway, like, four months later, Jerry hits a yearling sale at Timonium, thumbs through the book, sees Valin Time's *full-sister* in there, bends the page. Winds up shellin' out 13,500 clams for the filly, Onearmedbandit. She's by No Armistice out of Court Tour, a Polish Numbers mare. No pinhook or finesse play or anything like that. Jerry's not lookin' to cut anybody in for a piece either. Buys her solo, to race.

He figures the filly could be an early bird like her sister, and look what happens. She wins her first start, second, third, fourth. The fourth is some Charles Town stake.

Onearmedbandit can run all right, but down the road they find she can't breathe so well. Some vet says there's a growth on her throat. Blocks the airway. It's benign, this thing, but untouchable.

"No one would treat it," Jerry says. "No one knew what to do with it."

So here's this filly, all legged up and no place to go. Four wins at 2. Retires at 6 years old with seven wins outta 22 starts. Socked away some good dough, though, more than 300 Gs.

Now Jerry goes to breed her. He'd trained a horse from Great Notion's first crop, Great Love—won a couple stakes and Jerry's attaboy. So he sends Onearmedbandit to Great Notion up at Northview Stallion Station over there in Chesapeake City. Let's call it 2013.

Weather turns cold again, and now Jerry's got a problem. He needs a place

Jerry and Gina Robb share a moment with newly retired Anna's Bandit on their farm.

where Onearmedbandit can have the baby. Then he gets this swell idea. The foal'll be Maryland Million-eligible because it's by nominated sire Great Notion. But if it's born in West Virginia, it can run in those pricey WV-bred stakes too. Sorta like a double dip, though Jerry doesn't call it that.

By necessity out of opportunity, like they say in the horse business.

So he rings up O'Sullivan Farms, the Funkhousers' classy place up there in Charles Town, and sets it all up. Randy Funkhouser's son, John, does the foaling. They get Onearmedbandit off the van on Jan. 5, 2014. Baby's due five weeks later.

Nine days. That's all it took. On Jan. 14, a month too soon, Onearmedbandit goes into labor.

John knows the drill: A horse born four weeks early needs a wise hand, a sharp eye, a good going-over. Anna's Bandit, he says, wasn't sickly or domy-headed—his words—just . . . small.

"It's not like she was back at the knee or anything like that," he says. "And I vividly remember her as a foal. She was just a very, very well-put-together filly. Her front legs, through the knees, were straight as you want 'em. Just really, really good angles, good proportion everywhere."

Gina Robb doesn't tell it quite like that. "I remember going up to Charles Town," she says. "She was a little tiny thing, but a brick sh--house." Said it just like that without the dashes.

Well, Anna's Bandit grew up all right. Brown like chocolate with a funny white mark on her forehead, like a guy went to paint a slingshot, then had to lam it quick. Anyway, Jerry did it again, got the filly to win first out. That was Laurel, May 2016. Then Anna ran third in a stake at Belmont, second in a stake at Churchill. Looked like she was on her way.

Outta nowhere, they felt the heat, low on a front leg. You never wanna feel the heat, on a leg, on a street, on a caper. So Jerry calls the vet, and the vet spills lousy. Filly's got a broken sesamoid. Jerry's training horses since '75; he knows the score. Asks the vet can he go over the other front leg. Guess what. That sesamoid's busted too. But the break looks old, like maybe she did it as a yearling and ran like nothin's wrong.

A shiv to the side, this news. In the business 40 years, you think you've seen it all. Then this kinda sucker-punch, and you remember there's always more you don't wanna see in racing.

Vet tries to soft-shoe it, says the old break maybe could heal on its own with a little help. So Jerry hauls her up to Manor Equine Hospital in Monkton. Jim Juzwiak runs the place, injects stem cells in the one leg to help it heal. Second time works better than the first, Jerry says. Meantime, this Dr. J. does surgery to fix the other leg and tells it straight: Don't count on runnin' anymore.

Things like this go down, you don't think about saving a runner, Jerry says. You think about saving a horse. Like he put it, "I wanted to fix her regardless."

The surgery works—this is the summer of '16—and the other leg gets better. Meantime, Jerry and Gina are gettin' serious, which is like a whole story by itself.

Gina's dad, Luigi Gino, used to share a Bowie barn with Jerry when Gina was just a kid. Jerry watched her grow up. Now, Luigi was older—he's 80, still full o' pep—and Marisa, his wife, gets him to give up the game and live a little.

So Luigi quits training, goes to Jerry and says, "I want you to take care of my daughter," as in let her work, teach her right. "No problem," Jerry tells him.

Now, Gina's married to the jock Mark Rosenthal when all this goes down. They've got kids. Jerry's married with kids. Gina works the barn awhile, but she's young and hungry. She moves to track admissions like her mom, then mutuels, PR, gives out tips on the TV handicapping show. Knows her stuff. She has Jerry on the show once or twice. Like old times with a new spark.

Gina gets into training and breeding, starts her own stable, calls it No Guts No Glory. Got some moxie, that one. Now it's 2017, warm, and all these things start comin' together: Anna's Bandit is back gallopin', and Jerry and Gina are right in stride too, headin' from one marriage to another. They wind up buyin', like, 26 acres in Woodbine. Let's call it Hidden Hill Farm, Jerry tells her, like the place he had in Edgewater. No, she says. Let's call it No Guts No Glory Farm. Now they've got nine broodmares and eight weanlings they'll break next year at No Guts No Glory Farm.

"Gina's runnin' the farm, and I do the track," Jerry says. "And when I get home, she tells me how to do it."

Gina and Jerry have opinions, strong ones, and the guts to let 'em fly. Blunt's the word. Funny too. Somebody sized 'em up once and asked, "How does it work with two dynamic personalities?"

"We get dynamic every other day around here," Jerry told him.

Anyway, by the time Jerry and Gina hook up, November 2017, Anna's Bandit's revvin' pretty good too.

"I took my time bringin' her back," Jerry says. "Back then, she had all her conditions, so I had plenty of spots to run her. Worked her nice and easy every week. Babied her. Took forever to get her to the races, then it took two or three races for her to get fit. And then once she started runnin' . . . "

Fifteen months she goes unraced, this filly, then comes back in the fall with a fourth. Wins an allowance sprint next out. Now, you'd think Jerry's all upbeat—he's got her back in form. But that's not the way he tells it.

"Every time she ran, we held our breath," he says. "Not only the races, workouts too."

Didn't matter, guys had his back. Anna's groom, Roberto Battista, knew her legs and her style. Anna's jock, Xavier Perez, knew her way of travelin'. Two times a year, Jerry sent her back to Manor for a going-over. And still he's sweatin'.

Now, Jerry's not exactly the sweatin' type. He found the game through his old man, Willard—went by Huggie, like boogey with an H. A meat-cutter, this Huggie, who liked to carve out time for the races. "I would ask to go," Jerry says. "Sometimes he'd take me. Sometimes I had to hide in the car and wait 'til he was late for the double."

Out of high school there in Mayo, edge of the Chesapeake, Jerry went to work with dad hackin' meat for District Hotel Supply. Guy who kept the place and equipment runnin' was Jim Magill. Called him Mickey. Turns out this Mickey Magill had a couple runners, Thoroughbreds, and a farm around Oxon Hill, near the Rosecroft harness track. Anyway, Jerry and another guy make their way over there, and Mickey shows 'em how to gallop horses. Well, now Jerry's *really* hooked. So he goes up to Mickey one day.

Jerry: I think I wanna get my trainer's license.

Mickey: Do you know how to put a saddle on?

Jerry: Of course I do.

Mickey: That's all you need to know.

Jerry: What are you talkin' about?

Mickey: You put the saddle on him, walk him outta the shedrow, and every [person] on the racetrack'll tell you how to train.

Now, [person] isn't exactly how he said it.

Well, nobody gives Jerry any lip with Anna's Bandit. He plays it his way, takes his time, nudges her along. That's why she came back in September and didn't try a stakes race till March the next year, 2018,

No Guts No Glory Farm in Howard County, Md., is the farm that Anna's Bandit built.

seven starts into the rebound. Closed like gangbusters to win the Conniver easy. Took two more stakes that year, hit the board four more.

Now, Jerry's walked this tightrope. Remember Little Bold John? Old war horse won 25 stakes, the first Maryland-bred to make a cool million. Jerry kept him together for nine seasons and 105 starts against high-class company. Like, who does that?

Well, Maryland horsemen knew the score and gave Jerry awards for his work with LBJ. The horse's breeder and first owner, the old lawyer Hal C.B. Clagett–he's passed now–introduced Jerry at one of 'em. Now, lawyer Clagett could go a distance o' ground in conversation, and he talks up Jerry with this speech that goes on and on and on, like a loose horse you can't pull up. Finally he ends it. Jerry walks up, takes the mic and says, "Now I know where Little Bold John gets his wind from." Place breaks up.

But here's the thing: LBJ didn't have surgery at 2. Far from it. Hell, Jerry ran him six times in eight weeks that year, 1984. With Anna, he couldn't get so bold. Not yet, anyhow.

Then comes 2019. In March, Anna takes the Conniver again, and Charles Town's Original Gold a month later. By late summer she's all tuned up and ready to sing. Jerry lets her hit the high notes.

August she wins the Timonium Distaff. September, makes that big swoosh with X-Man, takes Charles Town's Sadie Hawkins at 1-10.

Like a nice antipasto before the main course, that Hawkins. When Jerry thought about foaling Anna in West Virginia, he was thinkin' West Virginia Breeders Classics night, Charles Town's big-money card for state-breds. Well, they bet her off the board again in the $175,000 Cavada, and she won so easy that Jerry put her in the Maryland Million Distaff a week later. Now here she comes again with The Move and takes the Distaff goin' away.

That made eight Maryland Million scores for Jerry as a trainer, first as owner-breeder. And it kept Great Notion's streak alive, if you track those things. Northview Stud's had at least one Million Day winner 11 straight years. Last year, four of 'em got a picture. Now Great Notion's third on the Million sire list with 17 winners, chasin' Not For Love and Allen's Prospect without runnin' at all.

Anyway, back to Anna's Bandit. She takes the 2019 Distaff and the Politely after that. Finishes the year with five straight stakes wins. In her best form ever, and still Jerry's worried and watchin' like somebody's tailin' him.

Meantime, Anna's carryin' on like she's the belle o' the ball. Come training time at Laurel, she stands over there by the gap for, like, 20 minutes. Just watchin', surveyin', X-Man lettin' her be. Ben's Cat used to do that too, stand there like some bigshot. Well, OK, he was. Then Anna worked the same routine, and nobody squawked she didn't earn it.

Come afternoon, she's all business. Wins one more stake in 2020. But Jerry backs off after three races. Gives her a whole year off. Brings her back this past June. Fifth in a Pimlico stake. Second in a Delaware stake. Next to last in a tough allowance at Colonial. Comes back OK, but Jerry calls in the marker. How many chances can a guy take when one chance too many makes a bust-out? Anna's Bandit made the finish line at age 7.

"I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I woulda hurt her in a race," he says.

You like numbers? Here's the book on Anna: 39-17-5-8, $806,655. That kinda paper gets you noticed, gets you friends, gets you *made*. Hell, they even put her mug on a bag of Legends-brand feed. Well, okay, not her mug–it's her runnin' a race.

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

What they call an action shot. You get the picture. Anyway, Jerry and Gina say they'll breed her next year. They're still on the lookout for the right match.

That's what got Dionne Benson, the vet, so fired up. The Robbs coulda run Anna through the year, dropped her in class even, and still had time to breed her. But they put the horse first.

Says Dionne: "To me, it would have been very easy for [them] to say, 'Let's start running her in some claiming races and make her competitive in those.' And I was so happy they decided to retire her when she was still a really competitive stakes mare and really do the right thing by the horse. It's something, I think, we should celebrate more."

Georganne Hale, the track exec who knows *everybody* frontside and back, was just the one to set up this farewell gig. Glad to do it too.

"She's such a hard-knocking mare, and she won her money the hard way—she didn't do it in the big-purse stakes," Georganne says. "The filly tried her heart out every time she ran. Didn't matter where she ran—she delivered. A filly like that deserves some recognition."

So now you're in on the play. Maryland Million, Oct. 23, Laurel Park. You find some ham-and-egger out there itchy for side action, you make a prop bet that Anna's Bandit'll go out a winner without even breakin' a sweat.

Story checks out. You can book it. ✹

RICK BUCKLEY

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Catching Up

Reconnecting with some of Maryland Million's top stars

By Sara Gordon

Talk Show Man. Phlash Phelps. Eighttofasttocatch. Roadhog. Admirals War Chest. Whether you bet on them, cheered for them, smiled when you spotted their names in the Maryland Million Souvenir Guide's pages, snapped pictures as they left the winner's circle or just simply loved them, they're just a handful of the greats whose names ring synonymously with Jim McKay Maryland Million Day.

With more than one Maryland Million victory, each took his connections on the ride of a lifetime with every trip around the Laurel Park track on Maryland's Day at the Races, leaving a new wave of fans, home-state pride and memories. Though their racing days are behind them, the Maryland Million fan favorites continued their legacies of success as retired racehorses enjoying new careers.

Talk Show Man

Dr. Michael Harrison's homebred Talk Show Man started his career on the dirt back in 2013 as a 3-year-old, but there was no denying that he found his true stride on the turf.

Despite a fifth in his Maryland Million debut in the 2013 Classic, the Maryland-bred son of Great Notion demolished any doubts when he returned the following year to have the last word in the Turf as he finished a half-length ahead of Ben's Cat, already a three-time Turf Sprint winner, and Roadhog, a two-time Turf winner.

The Hamilton Smith trainee returned for another attempt in the Classic in 2015 to finish fourth, 12 lengths behind winner Admirals War Chest, before switching back to the Turf in 2017, where he finished a hard-fought third, just a head behind winner Spartianos.

In 2018, the 8-year-old made his last Maryland Million start, in the Turf as he spoiled two-time Turf winner Phlash Phelps' bid for a record third victory as he passed him in deep stretch to win by a half-length.

The hard-knocking gelding returned in 2019 to make two starts in the spring and early summer before going home to Harrison's Willowdale Farm in Butler, Md., for a well-deserved break. The plan was to get back to racing. Well, until Talk Show Man decided otherwise.

"He sort of made the decision of whether he was going to go back or not on his own, when one morning I went out to feed and noticed he had some filling in one of his front legs," said Harrison. "It turned out to be a mild bowed tendon but in my mind that was enough. I'll never know what actually occurred, but that sort of for me said, 'It's retirement time.'"

Officially retired Oct. 6, 2019, the multiple stakes winner left behind a career record of 40-8-2-7 with $456,556 earned. Harrison planned to let the horse enjoy a quiet life on the farm. But plans changed when Lindy Gutman, a veterinary client of Harrison's for nearly 15 years, came into the picture to pitch a different idea.

With her off-track Thoroughbred Fullback on layup at Willowdale while being treated for rotating abscesses, Gutman's curiosity got the best of her one day at the barn as she asked Harrison, "So what are you going to do with Talk Show Man?"

Gutman asked about taking the horse to the Retired Racehorse Project's Thoroughbred Makeover. She was patient as Harrison did his research and mulled the idea. Just a couple months later, she received the answer she'd been hoping for, as Harrison sent a text message: "Let's talk about your plans for Talk Show Man. His leg looks great."

Gutman was pretty blunt.

"First of all, let me tell you that you could find a better trainer for this horse," she said to Harrison. "I'm just an amateur that's farting around, I'm sure there are a lot of people that would like to take this horse."

Harrison trusted Gutman, who took Talk Show Man to a farm just four miles down the road from Willowdale, in late November 2019. They began with ground work and walking under saddle as Talk Show Man, nicknamed "Riley," continued to recover from his tendon throughout the rest of 2019 before slowly moving into regimented flat work at the beginning of 2020. Racehorse and off-track Thoroughbred trainer Jazz Napravnik rode him first, but quickly passed the reins to Gutman.

"I started out just flatting him a little bit. We do have an indoor and I am a huge trail rider, so I just started taking him out really close to the barn. I could flat him for 10 or 15 minutes, then I'd have a little loop I could do that was sort of a 15-minute round trip, which included some pretty good hills, so I think we really got to know

each other out hacking, not in the ring," said Gutman. "I took him off property from the very, very beginning. That horse has literally been in the trailer twice a week, probably from the 90-day mark since I got him."

With a healthy mix of lesson work in the ring, on the flat and over fences, with trainers Napravnik and Katie Fitzpatrick, along with trips off the farm and trail rides, Talk Show Man blossomed as he prepared for the Makeover and continued to do so even after the news broke that the competition at the Kentucky Horse Park would be postponed until Oct. 17-21, 2021.

"I had a huge advantage in that last October, I had a horse that was a coming 10-year-old to take to the Makeover and a lot of other people had 3, 4, 5-year-olds, so I had a mature horse. I didn't have to deal with the things that come along with having a young horse, so last October I was readier than I'd ever been," said Gutman. "When they postponed I knew it was going to be harder for me because now everybody in my competition year has had another year, so everybody's horse is older and they've had another year of training. I think everybody will have caught up but that's OK. I'm going and I have an unbelievable horse that's going to come home with me, that gets to stay with me and we can continue to be 2'6" amateurs."

In the interim, Gutman and Talk Show Man have added to their resume, including: riding through obstacle courses, herding cattle (in an English saddle), walking hounds, delving into foxhunting, riding in paper chases, trying sidesaddle, participating in an international Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association training program, submitting a show-jumping round as competitors in the virtual Real Rider Cup, competing in local hunter shows and sweeping quite a few divisions at this year's MidAtlantic Horse Rescue All-Thoroughbred Show in May, including leadline with Fitzpatrick's 4-year-old daughter.

"I have not found anything that he is not a fan of yet. He has a super work ethic and he's very brave. He knows he's important and he likes to be treated like he's important and he likes everything. Every time we do something different, he just goes and does it," said Gutman. "He wants to work. I don't think he'd be as appreciative if I was the kind of rider that took him in the ring and we did show hunters all the time, and we stayed in the ring and didn't go hack around. He's as game in life as he was on the racetrack, in that he just has that, 'What are we doing today?' kind of attitude."

For this year's Mega-Makeover, which includes the classes of 2020 and 2021, Gutman entered Riley in the show-hunter division with field hunters as their second choice. Though the original agreement between Harrison and Gutman had been that Talk Show Man would return to Willowdale after the Makeover, the bond between the special homebred and his new rider has shown Harrison that he's exactly where he belongs.

"If he has issues or anything else he has to come back to me and I'll stay involved and cover some of the maintenance and routine things for healthcare and so forth, but she's done a fantastic job and she's very kindly shared images and updates, which keeps me really in the loop and honestly gives me tremendous satisfaction and enjoyment to see that," said Harrison. "He was a special horse and special to a lot of people, and we need to be responsible for them and do the best we can, so I'm very happy with how his second career has come about and how he's doing with it."

A horse lover and racing fan since she was young, Gutman has found immense pride in promoting the versatility and talent of retired racehorses with her first off-track Thoroughbred, as she has documented their journey on the "Talk Show Man–Our Adventures on the Road to the Makeover" Facebook page and through a blog on JumperNation.com.

"It's like the coolest feeling that this horse likes me, he really likes me, and he likes the way I ride him and he likes me on the ground, and last October, we didn't have the relationship yet," said Gutman. "I think he's not the kind of horse who gives it up right away. Now he does, but I think that's because he's come all the way down. He's friendly as can be to everybody, but a year ago he was probably still a little reluctant to let you see his soft side and now that's just who he is, he's just that sweet."

Talk Show Man has enjoyed everything from local hunter shows to walking out with hounds and foxhunting in preparation for the Retired Racehorse Project's Thoroughbred Makeover in October.

Phlash Phelps

Ever since exercise rider Sabrina Morris first met Hillwood Stable's Phlash Phelps in 2014, she knew he was special. And she knew she'd take him home someday.

Bred by Carol Kaye, the bay son of Great Notion was purchased by Hillwood's Ellen Charles as a yearling for $85,000 at the 2012 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale. He made one start as a 2-year-old and five as a 3-year-old before breaking his maiden on the turf at Pimlico, as a 4-year-old in April 2015.

He continued on a winning streak with an allowance win the following month, followed by a half-length victory in the Find, his stakes debut, before making his Maryland Million debut in the Turf that fall.

Phlash Phelps faced off against Turf veteran Roadhog, already a two-time winner of the 1-mile stakes, and won by three-quarters of a length. The result was much the same in 2016, the Rodney Jenkins

trainee's 5-year-old year, as he picked up a second consecutive Turf victory.

After a single start in 2017, a win in the Mister Diz Stakes and an injury that took him out for the rest of the season, Phlash Phelps returned for the 2018 Maryland Million Day in hopes of securing a record third win in the Turf. He fought hard and gained a short lead nearing the sixteenth pole, but couldn't hold off Talk Show Man's late run.

"Mrs. Charles and Rodney and Eveline [Kjelstrup] have basically all known since the time he was a 3-year-old that I absolutely adored the horse. Every year we joked that he won another stake or he did something else good and I'd be like, 'Well, guess it'll be another year before I can get to take him home,'" said Morris. "When they finally decided to retire him, they were pointing him to the Maryland Million and he was training fine but not fantastic and he's a little bit of a difficult horse because he wants to go out and train hard every day and you kind of can't let him."

Phlash Phelps made three winless stakes starts in 2019 before Morris got the call.

"Rodney called me one day before work, it was actually that early, and told me to bring my trailer and said I was taking Phlash home," said Morris. "That's how the conversation went. It wasn't like, 'Hey do you want him?' It was like, 'Bring your trailer, bring your horse home.'"

Late that summer, Morris brought Phlash Phelps home to Another Round Farm, her facility in Westminster, Md. He retired as a multiple stakes-winning 8-year-old with seven wins, four seconds and four thirds from 24 starts, with $434,801 in earnings. But most importantly to his connections, he retired sound.

He had to re-learn how to be a "horse on the farm" as he was turned out in a five-acre field with a small herd of geldings, including a Welsh Cob pony who was quick to befriend the nearly 18-hand retiree. The plan was to let Phlash Phelps enjoy his downtime as he acclimated to new surroundings, while Morris waited until he let her know that he was ready to start training for his second career. With years of experience in the racing industry and as an event rider/trainer who has retrained many off-track Thoroughbreds, Morris had patience on her side.

"One day one of the girls that works for me was still here when I got home from the track in the morning and she was like, 'Something's wrong with Phlash. He's just screaming his head off and walking around his stall, he's acting like he's really upset about something,'" said Morris. "So I walked into the barn and I was like, 'Whatcha doin', buddy?' and he started screaming at me, which is normal, he's a very vocal horse."

Twice a winner of the Maryland Milliion Turf, Phlash Phelps shows off his jumping form in the show ring.

Morris knew the issue. He wanted to go to work.

The work began last January, though it was put on pause from February through the spring as Morris recovered from ankle surgery and her students took over some of his exercise. By the end of the summer, Morris was back in the saddle and had him on a serious schooling schedule.

As they've worked their way up to competing in local eventing shows, Morris has discovered that the 10-year-old Maryland-bred isn't the biggest fan of cross country, but enjoys showjumping and dressage, which she's entered him in for this year's Mega-Makeover.

"From being a racehorse for so long, he still had all of his musculature that was developed for racing and it has taken a decent amount of time for him to develop a different set of muscles," said Morris. "I've had several older racehorses and they have to do that, they have to go through that phase. Now things are a bit easier for him because he has been able to adjust and have a better musculature for the dressage work, for the jumping. At this point the level of stuff that he'll be doing is well within his wheelhouse. I am more interested in doing what makes him happy, what he enjoys doing, than necessarily kind of going up the levels and seeing how high and how far he can go."

As the horse's main exercise rider at the track, Morris was accustomed to his opinionated and stubborn mindset, with a knack for leaping into the air, being more than full of himself while getting saddled in the paddock and being spatially sensitive to other horses on the track during morning training. The quirks intrigued Morris.

Morris has a feeling Phlash Phelps will enjoy the atmosphere of the Mega-Makeover, an overnight show at a large venue, as a horse who likes "thinking he's the center of attention." The pair have competed at local dressage schooling shows and smaller jumper schooling shows in preparation for the trip to Kentucky. His regular jockey Victor Carrasco even visited during one of his outings.

Though competing in the Mega-Makeover has been the ultimate goal, Morris also hopes to educate and inspire others.

"It's ridiculous how many people see a 5-, 6-, or 7-year-old that's just starting into a different career and they think it's too old. They're sound, they're mentally stable, they're horses that still have plenty to offer someone, but people have to change their mindset a little bit," said Morris. "Yes, Phlash is kind of a local celebrity, but he shows what a good Maryland-bred can do and that we have a good breeding program that [produces] horses that have longevity that can be retired sound and be able to be functional and do something and still have

a good athletic career, even if it's not at the highest level."

After their adventure in Kentucky, Morris will bring Phlash home, where he'll spend the rest of his life being her partner, teaching her students a thing or two and otherwise enjoying life on the farm.

"He's such a loud personality but he's a unique horse and the fact that everybody knew him, I think that's what was so special to me. He still does some of the very same things and then other things he's very different about now, and it's just very comfortable. He was a horse that every year I obviously looked forward to riding, to kind of pick up where our relationship left off," said Morris. "It's kind of a joke I have, and all the girls know that, they know he's basically a pet. He's very happy and Rodney can tell the horse is happy and that I'm happy, and obviously the horse is never going anywhere, I mean he'll live in my living room if he needs to."

Eighttofasttocatch

When Sylvia Heft's Eighttofasttocatch stepped onto the track for the post parade ahead of the 2014 Maryland Million Classic, all of the minute details of the big day at Laurel faded away as the weight of the test ahead took center stage. The glistening chestnut son of Not For Love entered the Maryland Million starting gate for the fifth time as he aimed to make history with a record third score in the Classic.

He made his first Maryland Million start in 2010, a third in the Turf as a 4-year-old, before switching back to the dirt the next year to win the Classic. The Tim Keefe trainee tried again in 2012, but only managed to finish fifth in the six-horse field, until he re-established his dominance with a victory in 2013.

Eighttofasttocatch's attempt at a third Classic came with pressure for his people, but to the 8-year-old gelding, it was just another trip around his home track. Reunited with jockey Forest Boyce, who had moved her tack to Fair Grounds but returned home for Maryland Million Day, Eighttofasttocatch assumed his regular position in the lead and held it as he went on to win by 4½ lengths over Concealed Identity and wrote himself into the Maryland Million history books.

It was not only historic but sentimental, as it was the Maryland-bred's second-to-last start in his final season at the track, his final start on Maryland Million Day and his first victory since Heft's husband Arnold, a co-owner, passed away that March.

That December, Eighttofasttocatch won his fourth consecutive Jennings Handicap to retire a millionaire, capping a 49-start career with a record of 17-7-4 and $1,072,970 earned, nearly 23 times the $47,000 the Hefts paid for the yearling at the 2007 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale. In 29 stakes starts, including a second in the 2013 Pimlico Special-G3, the chestnut bred by Dark Hollow Farm and Herringswell Stables won 12.

LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

A three-time winner of the Maryland Million Classic, Eighttofasttocatch enjoys foxhunting with Forest Boyce after an eventing career with Rumsey Keefe.

Given to Keefe and his wife Rumsey upon retirement, Eighttofasttocatch took a few last laps around the shedrow Dec. 14, 2014, before heading to the Keefes' Avalon Farm in Montgomery County, Md., to enjoy some downtime through the winter.

"I've always taken horses off the track, but yeah especially someone that special, who's run that long and [was] that hardy, to come back and do another career, that was neat," said Rumsey. "It was difficult to change because he'd spent nine years on the track, so just trying to get him used to being turned out and into a different routine was a little tough.

"At the racetrack, he had a goat that he loved and the goat did not come back to the farm with him, the goat stayed there, and I had this old broodmare who's good company, she doesn't get attached to whoever she's with and that's who he ended up turned out with. They were in a situation where they had access to a stall 24/7, so they could go in and out, and she just kind of taught him how to be a pasture animal."

By spring 2015, Rumsey, an accomplished three-day event rider, started working "Catcher" into his new life as an eventing prospect. Peter Brown-Whale, his regular exercise rider at the track, was the first to take him out for a few rides around the farm before Rumsey took over and began working him into a new routine.

"The hardest thing was extending the length of time that you'd be on him. I wouldn't say he's barn sour but he definitely was cued into going out to work, doing his thing, then coming back to see his goat. But here, I had to take my time and do a lot of hacks," she said. "I do it with a lot of my horses but especially with him. I made sure I walked in our woods for 20 minutes, then I came to the ring and I did 20 minutes of work, and I didn't go right back to the barn, [instead] I extended and tried to walk farther out. Even sometimes when I was riding him out in the field, it took me awhile just to be able to ride out in the field sort of by myself without him being a real bundle of nerves."

She took things day-by-day, slowly building his self-confidence as she added more to each ride, before taking him on his first outing late that July, a twilight event at Loch Moy Farm in Adamstown, Md., as they started seriously preparing for the Thoroughbred Makeover in the fall. Amidst outings to other local events, Rumsey brought Eighttofasttocatch to the Timonium infield for a special demonstra-

tion during the Maryland Horse Infield Fest that September.

Ninth in the eventing discipline at the 2015 Makeover, Rumsey continued to show Catcher as they competed at the beginner novice and novice levels before her daughter Ryan took over in October 2016, where they moved up the ranks to novice training and even tried a bit at the preliminary level through the summer of 2018.

"He could do the cross country but the showjumping, staying on a 12-foot stride and behaving himself and having to really use himself up over oxers, was a little harder on his back. His Achilles heel was some back issues," said Rumsey.

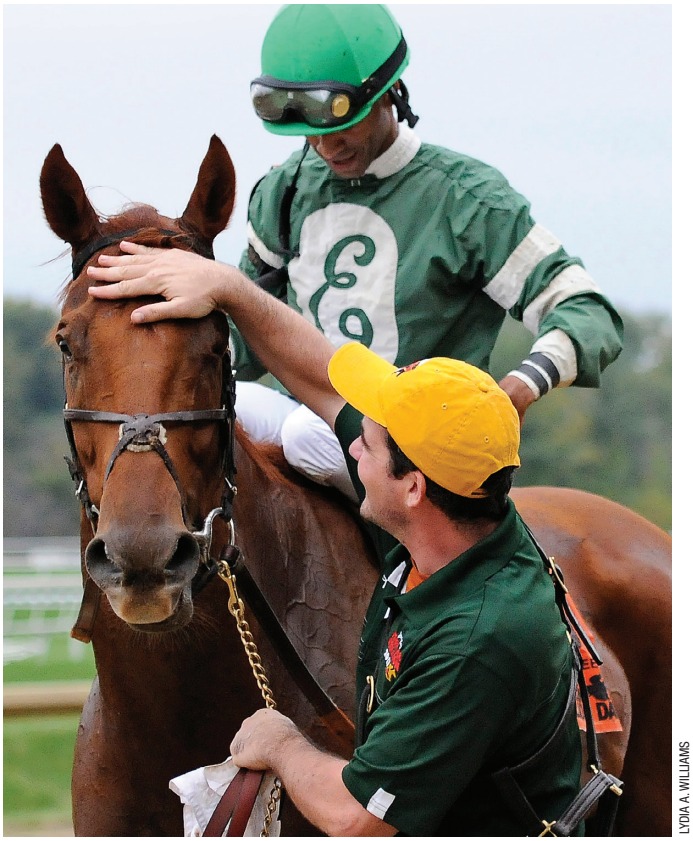
The following summer, after Rumsey had started getting Eighttofasttocatch back into condition after he recovered from a splint, the Keefes reached out to see if Boyce would be interested in taking him to her family's farm in Fallston, Md., to see if he might like to try foxhunting. Without hesitation, Boyce agreed, and picked up her new mount Aug. 26, 2019.

"I just always knew he was the type of horse that wanted a job, he didn't just want to sit around and be a pet, but I didn't need to be competing at the lower levels and my younger daughter wasn't quite ready for him," Rumsey said. "He always loved going out trail riding, just going out and about, and he didn't initially need to be schooled and drilled, so I asked Forest if she would try him as a foxhunter."

Now in his third season as a foxhunting mount for Boyce, and occasionally her mother, sister and even 13-year-old nephew, Eighttofasttocatch continues to excel during their time out with Elkridge-Harford.

"He's actually one of the strongest horses I've ever had to hold, getting to the pole in the morning, you know to breeze him [at the track], and when they told me, 'Oh yeah, we're eventing him,' I was like, 'Y'all are crazy, this horse is so strong,' and it's amazing how different they are once you get them away from the track. Never in a million years would I have thought I'd be able to foxhunt him in a snaffle," said Boyce. "He took to [foxhunting] so well, like a fish to water. Most foxhunting people had told me, 'Oh a horse that's evented normally won't like to foxhunt because they're very brave, they don't really want to stay behind other horses,' and he loves it. Every now and then, if another horse kind of gives him a funny look, he'll run on past them, it's really cute."

Now 15, Eighttofasttocatch will stay with Boyce and her family for as long as they have a use for him, and when that chapter comes to an end, he'll return home to Avalon.



LYDIA A. WILLIAMS

Roadhog, here getting some love after winning the Maryland Million Turf in 2013, plays the role of "babysitter" on the farm these days.

"He was so good to me so I'm just trying to keep him as happy as I can. He likes being ridden out, so that's what we do," said Boyce. "He's absolutely wonderful."

Roadhog

To this day, Dale Schilling still has the replay of the 2013 Maryland Million Turf saved to his phone and every once in a while he'll pull it up to watch the battle between Roadhog and Ben's Cat down the stretch. In the end, Schilling's homebred Roadhog pulled away and won by a neck to upset the three-time Turf Sprint winner's bid for a fourth consecutive Maryland Million victory.

"It was definitely the highlight of our racing career. We've had some other nice horses but he's special. He was born here, I remember driving down to Maryland to breed [his dam] to Bowman's Band. He was just a tough, tough horse," said Schilling, who races under the Ellendale Racing banner with his wife Ellen Lea.

That race was the Pennsylvania-bred's third start in the Turf on Maryland Million Day, following a seventh in 2011 as a 4-year-old and a win over Change of Command the following year.

Roadhog, trained by Ned Allard in his debut season in 2010 as a 3-year-old before he was switched to Lizzie Merryman for the rest of his career, would make two more runs in the Maryland Million Turf. In 2014, he finished third behind Talk Show Man, who beat runner-up Ben's Cat by a half-length. In a final attempt in 2015, 8-year-old Roadhog was unable to catch Phlash Phelps, who hit the wire three-quarters of a length ahead.

The next year, the veteran made two winless starts in the summer before being retired in late July. He returned to Willow Lake Farm in Bucks County, Pa., with a record of 44-10-9-6, including six stakes wins, and $670,264 earned.

"He was getting older and we didn't want to get him hurt," said Schilling. "He'd given us his best and I knew he'd be great at this job, running the farm."

Roadhog settled easily into life on the farm, where he was used occasionally as a trail horse though his main job has always been to serve as a babysitter of the younger horses.

"Every baby, every horse that comes through here that needs calmin' down, we put them out with him, he's terrific," said Schilling. "He's here in the backyard, [right now] he's with a Temple City filly, a yearling. As soon as we wean we put the weanlings right with him, never a hair is turned. He's tops."

His only flaw may be that he's too smart for his own good, exemplified by the unfortunate occasions when he loses his halter and won't let his owners catch him.

"If he sees us coming out to do anything to the horses, worm them, vaccinate them, he's like, 'You're not getting me

today,'" Schilling said. "He'll stand right there but won't let you get him. If you come out with mints or to bathe him, he'll stand there and he's fine, but he's sly."

For Merryman, the biggest reward is knowing one of her top trainees, one she galloped most of his career at the track, is enjoying retirement.

"He was a really neat horse with a great personality that was just fun to be around and fun to ride. I galloped him a lot myself through his career and he had a very unique personality, very much wanted things his way, and he and I got along quite well," she said. "He retired at 9 because his form was tailing off. It was sad to see him leave the barn, but I was happy that he was going out sound. I get pictures of him all the time and I went out to visit him one time, and he just looked like, 'Hey mom,' he's just a real character. It's fun to see him because he's just a big, massive, lovely horse."

Now five years retired from the track, the 14-year-old still enjoys the occasional gallop across the grass, which remains his surface of choice.

"Say it's fall and we have late yearlings, the yearlings will take off and Roadhog catches them every time," said Schilling. "Oh yeah he can giddy up, he loves to still run with them, it's great."

Admirals War Chest

When Admirals War Chest delivered an impressive gate-to-wire triumph in the 2016 Maryland Million Classic, he became the fifth back-to-back winner of the Classic as he joined the likes of Timely Warning (1990-91), Algar (1997-98), Docent (2002-03) and Eighttofasttocatch (2011, 2013-14). The victory was the epitome of what Maryland Million Day represented, as he returned to the winner's circle to be celebrated by his owner/breeder Dr. Stephen Sinatra, also the owner of the gelding's sire Elusive Charlie, standing at Sinatra's Berkley Training Center in Darlington, Md.

The history-making score followed his stakes debut in the 2015 Classic, where Admirals War Chest managed to outlast a late run from Bullheaded Boy to win by a neck. When they faced off again the following year, the 5-year-old Corby Caiazzo trainee wasn't so lenient as he put a solid 3½ lengths between himself and Bullheaded Boy, once again the runner-up.

Though he had the heart of a prize fighter, Admirals War Chest was limited by hoof problems.

"I had to hold him together with glue so to speak. He had chronic inflammation of the feet and that was a tough thing to overcome. I tried nutraceuticals, I tried medications, I tried earthing and grounding, I tried everything I could to get his feet in shape and he just had these hoof problems that were rough to deal with," said Sinatra. "If he had healthy feet, he would have been a far different horse."

ANNE LITZ

A back-to-back winner of the Maryland Million Classic, Admirals War Chest enjoys retired life at February Star Sanctuary.

After making just one start in early October prior to the 2017 Classic, Admirals War Chest attempted to add a third victory but couldn't hold the lead and faded to finish 10th. It was the 6-year-old's final start as he retired after 22 starts with a record of 5-2-5 and $305,781 earned.

The two-time Maryland Million Classic winner returned to Berkley, where he'd been enjoying life as a retiree in a field of his own before moving this July to Phyllis Smith's February Star Sanctuary in Knoxville, Md., after Sinatra decided to sell the facility and sought a safe place for his retired racehorses and older broodmares to land.

"Phyllis is wonderful, she runs a nice operation and I'll be sending her some of my older horses, because basically what I want to do for these animals is give them a good home," said Sinatra. "We gave [Admirals War Chest] the best shot possible and now he's turned out so visitors see him at Phyllis' farm and I understand from Phyllis that people love him."

February Star Sanctuary, home to 32 horses and 121 cats, exists with the mission to teach compassion toward animals and hosts many educational programs for youth and other visiting groups. For now, Admirals War Chest is enjoying life as a pasture ornament while also serving as an ambassador for off-track Thoroughbreds. After some more downtime, Smith hopes to work with Admirals War Chest to assess his soundness and the possibility of his chances to start a new career as a riding horse.

"He's a beautiful horse, beautiful personality too, he's very, very friendly. He doesn't even realize how big he is, he's just right there. He's the first one to meet you at the gate," said Smith. "He's a little more high maintenance than our average rescue that we have here, just because he has to be sedated to have his feet even trimmed. We'll do more of the lameness tests after he's more comfortable with his surroundings and after we've kind of got a good plan when it comes to getting his feet trimmed. He has had a lot of issues in the past so we're just kind of trying to take it slow."

Smith keeps in contact with Sinatra, who enjoys the updates on 10-year-old Admirals War Chest, along with his other horses.

"He really wanted them to go have another purpose and have a good life and you know, it was so good that he was so responsible about what happens to these horses and is still interested in their lives," said Smith. "But [Admirals War Chest is] one of those ones, no matter what, if he can't be rideable again then he'll live out his life here." ✹

Too Good to be True

When you are young and eager to be in the horse business your head can be turned by any attention paid to you by older and more established members of the industry. You are so bent on making a career out of Thoroughbreds that you rarely say no to any offer to do business. In the early '80s, just after we had bought our farm in Cochranville, Pa., Dixie and I created a weanling-to-yearling pinhooking venture. We had been pinhooking for our own account with some success and a few friends had noticed and asked us to buy weanlings for them to resell. We could never figure out how to allocate the weanlings we bought among the various people and so we decided to pool everyone's money and create a new venture for each weanling crop.

My comfort level in buying weanlings had always been in the $20,000 range so we sold shares in the venture for that amount. We would raise in the neighborhood of $200,000 and, as we bought each weanling, we would set aside $6,000 to pay its keep until it was resold the following year. This scheme had several beneficial effects; we didn't have to explain how the purchased horses were being allocated among the investors; we had a group of horses boarding on the farm; and it enlarged our consignments at a time when we were trying to make a name for ourselves in the bloodstock business.

Brownwood Farm was a particular favorite for us to buy from. They bred quite a few horses of good quality, raced the fillies and sold all their colts at Keeneland November. To say the colts were rough would be an understatement. The colts came to the sale directly from the field and this, of course, made the consignment a hive of pinhookers who all thought they could transform these colts by the following year. Often this was true.

One year Dixie and I bought a chestnut colt by Explodent for $20,000 as part of the pinhooking venture. He was an early foal and grew up to be a very smooth and flashy yearling. We took him, as a one-horse consignment, to the Fasig-Tipton July Sale and sold him to Dean Gaudet bidding on behalf of Israel Cohen for $200,000. At the time it was the most expensive horse we had sold and we were over the moon. Our entire investment in the seven weanlings was $200,000 and we were out on the first horse we led up to the ring. We had good luck with most of the others and returned a 300 percent profit that year. Of course, the crash of 1985 was coming so that kind of profitability did not last.

At Keeneland September in the year we sold the Explodent colt we were approached by a fellow pinhooker named Sy Cohen. Sy was a character out of an Elmore Leonard novel. Born in Detroit and raised in Miami, Sy had been a tennis hustler in his youth, a racing writer/handicapper for the *Miami Herald* and the kind of bloodstock agent whose name never appeared in print. Among his clients was the world famous abstract expressionist Frank Stella.

Stella sometimes paid Sy in kind.

After a particularly bad hurricane in Miami I called to see how Sy and his wife Kim had fared in the storm. I knew that his house had hurricane shutters and I asked if they had evacuated. His reply was typical Sy. "No, Kim and I locked ourselves in the living room with the dogs and the Stellas and rode out the storm."

When he saw me in September, Sy was very complimentary about the job we had done with the Explodent colt and asked if he could give us a weanling in November to take home, raise, and then sell on his behalf the following September. We were young and hungry so we were thrilled by this attention. In November, Sy bought an almost black filly by Irish Tower for $7,500 and we shipped her home to Charlton.

To be honest, the filly was no great shakes. She was kind of dumpy and slightly offset in her knees and, as the sale approached, I was nervous about her chances. When Sy saw her at the sale he seemed a lot less disappointed than I was. We were stabled in the "nosebleed barns" on the top of the hill overlooking the Keeneland training track and the filly picked that moment to come in season. Every time we brought her out in the morning when horses were training her tail went right up over her back and she made a fool out of whoever was showing her. In those days we didn't know about ReguMate so the filly was a horror. She wouldn't walk; she wouldn't stand and she screamed incessantly.

On the afternoon of the day before she was to sell, a famous trainer came with his client and asked to see the filly. I showed the filly myself, but that didn't improve her mood. As I stood there, I couldn't believe my ears as the trainer extolled the virtues of this horse that I had come to despise. She was "quick" and "racy" and "looked like a speedball." I thought to myself, "Well he's a famous trainer so he must know what he's talking about." I began to question everything I thought I knew about yearlings.

We led her down to the ring the next day and that famous trainer bought her for $75,000. I was in shock. I decided that I didn't know anything but I was a "horse-sellin' son of a bitch."

Many, and I mean many, years later, after we had bought and sold many horses in partnership with Sy Cohen, he finally came clean. The year of the Irish Tower filly he had bought eight weanlings in partnership with the famous trainer. He had sent them to eight farms to be raised and resold. In September the famous trainer had bought seven of the eight on behalf of his wealthy client. Apparently, one was so bad even he couldn't bring himself to buy it.

Everyone in this story, other than Dixie and I, is dead and I honestly believe that the other consignors were as ignorant as we. It just reinforces the adage that when something seems too good to be true, it usually is. ✹

Talking Horse

Maryland-bred Exculpatory rolls to Hilton victory for Merryman, Reid

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Mark Reid and Grace Merryman know each other so well that they can predict what the other might say, how the comment might be said and—perhaps most importantly—what it really means.

So when Merryman and her husband Louis sent homebred Mineshaft colt Exculpatory to Reid to train late last year, it went something like:

"Gracie [he calls her that] sent him to me, and she told me this and that and how she liked him," Reid said. "But you hear a lot of that."

"Mark had him a couple weeks and then he calls and says, 'So Gracie, what do you want do with this horse? I think he might be OK.' But he says things like that."

Fast forward about eight months and they're both right.

Exculpatory has won four of six starts, earned $201,762 and found himself the subject of big-money offers from agents, owners and trainers looking for a potential Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile-G1 runner. The 3-year-old Maryland-bred became a stakes winner Aug. 27, Charles Town Classic Night, by dismantling eight rivals in the $150,000 Robert Hilton Memorial. Exculpatory and jockey Carol Cedeno led by more at every call, eventually scoring by 6¼ lengths in 1:23.49 for 7 furlongs. In his wake galloped in runners from national trainers Saffie Joseph Jr., Mark Casse, Brad Cox and Steve Asmussen.

The stakes triumph continued a story of perseverance. Exculpatory was the first foal born at the Merrymans' Anchor and Hope Farm in Port Deposit, Md., in 2018 and was supposed to be sold as a weanling and a yearling but only made it to one sales ring ($37,000 RNA at Keeneland November 2018) thanks to illness, injury, a barn fire, you name it. Out of options, the Merrymans figured they'd keep Exculpatory to race and sent the 2-year-old to Louis' father Edwin at Fair Hill Training Center. The colt made progress, but lost time to a guttural pouch infection and was still unraced in late December. Edwin Merryman suggested sending Exculpatory to Reid at Pimlico, where the 1-mile dirt track would suit a horse of his size better

Exculpatory surges to the wire in the Robert Hilton Memorial on the Charles Town Classic undercard.

than Fair Hill's tighter all-weather surface for winter training. Fair Hill's dirt track availability can get spotty in the winter.

A debut got delayed even further by a fever and a revoked gate card, but Exculpatory won his long-awaited first start at Laurel March 5. He rallied from 10 lengths down to win a 5½-furlong maiden special. Of course, he didn't run again until May (weather cancellation, EHV-1 quarantine…) and finished fifth, but he added an allowance at Pimlico May 28 and a handicap at Colonial Downs July 20 to go along with a second at Pimlico June 19.

All along, Reid loved what he saw.

"The more you're around him, the more you're impressed with him," said the trainer. "He has a ton of natural ability, and I don't think we're there yet. I think there's room [for improvement]. We're going to start shopping deeper water, but he gives you confidence going in. You can ship him. Nothing bothers him. He has a very laid-back, happy attitude, eats every oat you put in front of him, everything."

Reid started training in 1976, conditioned top sprinter Mr. Nickerson, was among the national leaders with 176 wins in 1991 and 216 in 1992, bought such stars as Medaglia d'Oro, You, Spoken Fur and Midas Eyes as a bloodstock agent, managed the racing career of 2005 Horse of the Year Saint Liam and owned Pennsylvania-based Walnut Green breeding/sales farm (where "Gracie" ran the office and learned plenty.)

"It's a really fun, full-circle moment," she said of being an owner in Reid's barn. "Mark gave me my start doing all this. I learned a lot from him for a long time and now fast-forward 15 years almost and I get to him with Eli [Exculpatory's barn name since the early days] and we're having a great deal of fun with it. He loves the horse, appreciates him and is excited about him."

While working as an agent and running Walnut Green, Reid retired as a trainer–and didn't have a runner between 2000 and 2014. He's back with a much smaller stable, based at Pimlico and Delaware Park depending on the time of year, and loves the idea of mapping out a route of major goals for a horse like Exculpatory.

"From the second he came in, he's been a pushbutton horse. He's very unassuming, doesn't do a whole lot other than watch the world go by," he said. "But every time you lead him over there, it looks like he's working :52 and he's shading :47 [in half-mile breezes]. I had the good fortune of working around Bobby Frankel and those guys and that's what the good ones do."

Owner and breeder Grace Merryman (center with plaque) and trainer Mark Reid (right) celebrate Exculpatory's first stakes win at Charles Town.

Reid isn't calling Exculpatory the next Medaglia d'Oro, who won three Grade 1 stakes and earned $5.7 million for Hall of Famer Frankel and owner Edmund Gann.

"He's a big, strong horse although not super tall, but when you get up next to him you feel like your standing next to a Sherman tank," Reid said of Exculpatory. "He puts me in mind of Medaglia d'Oro. Medaglia was a big, strong horse but not ultra-tall. You always thought he was a little heavy in front until you stood behind him and he was as wide as a diesel truck."

Reid wants to try longer distances, and has loads of options–Maryland-bred stakes against older horses at Laurel Park, the Ack Ack-G3 at Churchill Downs Oct. 2–all while fielding and declining (thus far) offers to sell.

The Merrymans will go along for the ride. Grace was at Charles Town with her aunt Sheila Scudder and went a little crazy.

"I was having an out of body experience," Grace said. "I did make myself watch him cross the wire, but I can't say I remember watching him run the race. It happens with him."

As for the sales pitches, she lets Reid handle the phone calls (which he called "around the clock").

"The universe sent us some not-so-subtle signs to keep him and we listened," said Grace. "Here we are. It's going to have to be the ideal situation. He's meant so much to us just with everything. My heart would be ripped out if he was completely gone and no longer ours."

As it goes for breeders, Anchor and Hope deals with losses along with wins. The new stakes winner's dam Elusory, an unraced daughter of Broken Vow with two winners from three foals to race, hasn't had a live foal since Exculpatory.

"She's resting on her laurels," Grace said. "We try not to say it in front of her, but she's pregnant to Holy Boss right now so hopefully that comes to fruition. We would obviously love to have a brother or a sister." ✹

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Museum Quality

Art Collector, Runco's five training wins highlight rich Charles Town Classic card

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Get the big news out of the way first. Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott went to Charles Town with Art Collector, a Grade 2 winner and 2020 Preakness Stakes-G1 starter, and ruled–landing the $800,000 Charles Town Classic-G2 Aug. 27.

Bred and owned by Bruce Lunsford, Art Collector won for the seventh time in 14 starts and pushed his career earnings to $1,260,305 while improving to 2-for-2 since moving to Mott's barn from trainer Tommy Drury after finishing sixth in the Kelly's Landing Stakes at Churchill Downs June 25. In his debut for Mott, the 4-year-old son of Bernardini won Saratoga's Alydar Stakes Aug. 6 and then aimed for West Virginia rather than tackling Saratoga's Jockey Club Gold Cup at the end of the meet. The move paid off.

"He came in good shape, the guy who had him is a good guy," Mott said. "All in all, he came in a fresh horse, he had one race which probably didn't suit him, got off a little bad, it was basically a seven-furlong workout for him. When he came to us, he was ready for that next step. We had him, what, five weeks, six weeks at the most, before we ran him."

At Charles Town, Art Collector put together an ideal trip just off early leader and 2020 race winner Sleepy Eyes Todd for most of the 1⅛-mile trek around the 6-furlong track. Luis Saez said go on the final turn, Sleepy Eyes Todd put up a fight, but Art Collector swept past and won by 1½ lengths as the 7-5 favorite with Rushie taking third.

"He's got tactical speed, the race at Charles Town suited him, he's good at 9 furlongs, he's got speed and he's good at the distance and he was good enough to beat the champ from the year before," said Mott. "That horse ran good, he left there running and was on the fence."

Approaching 50 years as a trainer, Mott stirred up some memories with the trip.

"I went on a private plane, so it was good," he said of the Saratoga-to-Charles Town ship. "It was OK. I've been to plenty of those places."

A PACKED PROGRAM

Headed by the Classic, Charles Town's card went 13 races deep and included eight other stakes. Nobody had a better night than local trainer Jeff Runco, who won five races.

"We had a real special night for sure, everything lined up," said Runco. "You never go in thinking you can win five. We knew we had some good chances, but things have got to go right. Our horses stepped up, but we couldn't do it without a lot of other people. The people who work for us do a great job, there are so many

Fresh off a stakes win at Saratoga, Art Collector (Luis Saez) wins the Charles Town Classic-G2.

people behind the scenes that make it happen. Our clients, our help, it takes a lot. Without a lot of work and people sending you good horses, none of it happens."

Runco runners won four in a row–races three through six–topped by stakes wins from Star of Night and Social Chic. The former won the $75,000 Sadie Hawkins for West Virginia-bred fillies and mares going 7 furlongs. Owned by Huntertown Farm, the daughter of Creative Cause won for the seventh consecutive time and captured her third race of 2021. She's won nine of 11 lifetime (with two seconds), and impressed her trainer at every step.

"She brings it every time," said Runco, who paid partial credit to a winter vacation. "She needed a break. She had been running pretty good as a 3-year-old. A year like that [seven starts] can take something out of them and we needed to get some weight on her. She grew and looks great and has really come back good this year."

Two races later, Runco runner Social Chic did his part by winning the $75,000 Robert G. Leavitt–dispatching eight other state-bred 3-year-olds with a front-running effort that ended in a 2¾-length win in the 7-furlong test. While he can't quite match the streaking Star of Night, Smart Angle's Social Chic won for the fifth time in 10 starts while becoming a stakes winner.

"He's really coming around to himself," said Runco. "We didn't get a couple races we tried to get when he ran second in the 4½-furlong race [a second in the Coin Collector Stakes May 8] and had to run against older horses off a big layoff the next time. He came back and ran really well."

Bred by Jim Miller, the winner is by Upstart out of the Harlan's Holiday mare Tres Chic (a three-time winner at Charles Town).

Runco had to wait around to complete his pick five as Muad'dib won the Frank Gall Memorial, which started at 11:37 p.m., to remain undefeated in seven starts for owner David Raim. The 4-year-old son of Fiber Sonde and full brother to graded stakes-winning $700,400-earner Late Night Pow Wow won all three starts last year, but spent a year away from the races before returning in March and sweeping three allowance starts and now the $75,000 Gall.

"He had some issues he needed some time for, but he's a nice, big, strong colt and he's doing good," said the trainer, whose horses finished first, second and fourth in the race. "He's undefeated. We run him where he can win, but we're not going to be ducking anybody either."

Like most everyone at Charles Town, Runco appreciated the spotlight brought to the track by a night with two graded stakes and $2,060,950 in purses. The card lured out-of-towners like Mott, but also provided opportunities to local horsemen and did its part in the handle department too–the track set a record with $7,179,783 in total handle (the old record, set on the 2019 Classic card, was $5.7 million).

"It's great for the track, great for everybody," said Runco. "It's their signature race, how they stamp this place in the racing world–a huge night, huge handle, shattered the record, they got some big names there, that's what it's all about." ✹

Two of trainer Jeff Runco's five wins on Charles Town Classic night included Social Chic in the Robert G. Leavitt Memorial, left, and Star of Night in the Sadie Hawkins.

Stakes results for Charles Town

8/27 Charles Town Classic-G2 ($800K). 1⅛ mi. 3&up.

Winner: **ART COLLECTOR** (b.c., 4, Bernardini—Distorted Legacy, by Distorted Humor). B/O-W. Bruce Lunsford (Ky.). T-William I. Mott. J-Luis Saez. Time: 1:49.39. Margin: 1½. 2nd: **Sleepy Eyes Todd**. 3rd: **Rushie**.

8/27 Charles Town Oaks-G3 ($400K). 7 F. 3YO F.

Winner: **R ADIOS JERSEY** (b.f., Adios Charlie—Marion Theatre, by Montbrook). B-Ocala Stud and J. Michael O'Farrell Jr. (Fla.). O-Averill Racing LLC and ATM Racing. T-Georgina Baxter. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:24.37. Margin: 3¼. 2nd: **Pauline's Pearl**. 3rd: **Allworthy**.

8/27 Misty Bennett Pink Ribbon ($150K). 7 F. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **LADY ROCKET** (dk.b./br.f., 4, Tale of the Cat—Allons Danser, by Eskendereya). B-La Ciega LLC and Tale of the Cat Syndicate (Ky.). O-Frank Fletcher Racing Operations Inc. and Ten Strike Racing. T-Brad H. Cox. J-Florent Geroux. Time: 1:24.56. Margin: 1¾. 2nd: **Landing Zone**. 3rd: **Queen Nekia**.

8/27 Robert Hilton Memorial ($150K). 7 F. 3YO.

Winner: **EXCULPATORY** (b.c., Mineshaft—Elusory, by Broken Vow). B-Anchor and Hope Farm Inc. and Finn's Nickel LLC (Md.). O-Grace Merryman. T-Mark J. Reid. J-Carol Cedeno. Time: 1:23.49. Margin: 6¼. 2nd: **Awesome Gerry**. 3rd: **Helium**.

8/27 Russell Road ($150K). 7 F. 3&up.

Winner: **VERTICAL THREAT** (b.c., 4, Tapiture—Viola Blew By, by Omega Code). B-Albert Davis and Teresa Davis (Ky.). O-MyRacehorse and Slam Dunk Racing. T-Richard Baltas. J-Florent Geroux. Time: 1:24.50. Margin: 3½. 2nd: **Wind of Change (Brz)**. 3rd: **Sound Off**.

8/27 Frank Gall Memorial ($75K). 7 F. Reg. WV-Bred, 3&up.

Winner: **MUAD'DIB** (gr./ro.g., 4, Fiber Sonde—Holy Pow Wow, by Indian Charlie). B-John McKee (W.Va.). O-David M. Raim. T-Jeff C. Runco. J-Arnaldo Bocachica. Time: 1:25.16. Margin: neck. 2nd: **North Atlantic**. 3rd: **Hero's Man**.

8/27 Robert G. Leavitt Memorial ($75K). 7 F. Reg. WV-Bred 3YO.

Winner: **SOCIAL CHIC** (dk.b./br.g., Upstart—Tres Chic, by Harlan's Holiday). B-James Franklin Miller (W.Va.). O-Smart Angle LLP. T-Jeff C. Runco. J-Arnaldo Bocachica. Time: 1:24.90. Margin: 2¾. 2nd: **No Change**. 3rd: **Youthinkthatsfunny**.

8/27 Sadie Hawkins ($75K). 7 F. Reg. WV-Bred, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **STAR OF NIGHT** (gr./ro.f., 4, Creative Cause—Splendiferous Moon, by Malibu Moon). B-Heinz J. Steinmann (W.Va.). O-Huntertown Farm LLC. T-Jeff C. Runco. J-Arnaldo Bocachica. Time: 1:24.50. Margin: 1¼. 2nd: **Bridging the Gap**. 3rd: **See Ya Manana**.

8/27 Sylvia Bishop Memorial ($75K). 7 F. Reg. WV-Bred 3YO F.

Winner: **DOOR BUSTER** (b.f., Speightster—Miss Henny Penny, by Half Ours). B-Catherine K. Jennings and Scott Mallory (W.Va.). O-Jay A. Reese. T-Ollie L. Figgins III. J-Denis Araujo. Time: 1:27.38. Margin: 2. 2nd: **C V's Powerpak**. 3rd: **Jacks Sister Jill**.

High Stakes

Yearling purchase Cynergy's Star shines in Juvenile for Bonuccelli, Cox

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM MCCUE

Charlie Bonuccelli and his trainer Kenny Cox went to the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale last fall and targeted prospects who might fit the Maryland racing program – Laurel Park, Pimlico, Maryland Million races would be nice.

Of course, the owner and trainer were working with a budget and trying to remain disciplined. Until Bonuccelli saw a Golden Lad colt in the walking ring outside the sales pavilion.

"Damn, that's a nice-looking horse," Bonuccelli told his trainer as Hip 226 walked into the sales ring.

"We didn't even look at him," Cox cautioned. No matter. Bonuccelli bid to $8,500, and added a future racehorse to his Bonuccelli Racing outfit.

Hours later, a Great Notion colt they had looked at walked in and Cox made sure Bonuccelli followed instructions.

"The bidding started medium, then it was slow, I bid 20 [thousand], somebody went to 22 and Kenny said, 'This is one you should bid on,' and I went to 25," Bonuccelli said. "I kind of froze there for a minute. I thought it was going to go a lot higher. We laugh about it now."

Score one for Cox as the $25,000 bid held and Bonuccelli owns a runner. Named Cynergy's Star, the Great Notion gelding won the Timonium Juvenile Stakes at Timonium Aug. 29 (worth $125,000 when $50,000 was added for Maryland-bred and Maryland-sired). It was his second win in three starts and the first stakes win for Bonuccelli. Owner and trainer aren't giving up, but the Golden Lad colt, Auspicious Lad, has yet to start. The success validated Cox's opinion at the sale.

"He was my number one pick to buy and we looked at a few," the trainer said. "He was correct, just looked like a prospect. Great Notions have a look about them and he had that look. I've always been on a budget at the sales so I do the homework, go through as many as I can and just try to come up with something you might get lucky with."

Bred by Tom and Chris Bowman in partnership with Skeedattle Associates, Cynergy's Star is a half-brother to stakes winner Look Who's Talking and from the family of graded winners Gin Talking, Dixie Talking and Done Talking. Consigned by Becky Davis, the bay gelding was Virginia-certified so Cox tackled the restricted $100,000 Hickory Tree Stakes at Colonial Downs for a debut Aug. 2.

Cynergy's Star makes it look easy while gliding to the finish of the Timonium Juvenile.

Breaking from the inside post in a field of nine, he finished seventh but left with plenty of lessons.

"I knew we had it up against us with the one hole, but thought if any horse could overcome it, he could," said Cox. "He's a very forward-thinking horse. For a stake you take your shot for 100 in a race with mostly maidens. He learned a lot, but he ran like a first-timer."

Twelve days later, he graduated the maiden ranks at Pimlico and then went back to stakes company at Timonium for the 5-furlong track's only stakes at the seven-day Maryland State Fair race meet. Not held in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, Timonium provided a bridge between Pimlico's extended meet and a return to Laurel for the fall.

Cynergy's Star made the most of it, stalking early leaders Up for the Chance and Bandfromthebar before taking over after a half-mile in :48.98 and drawing off to win by 2 lengths over Slaats with Addy's Laddy T N T third. The Maryland-bred and -sired status earned the winner some extra purse money, so Bonuccelli walked away with $75,000 less than a year after spending one-third that on the yearling.

The owner enjoyed his first stakes win, especially since his Past Perfect finished second after leading late in the 2019 Timonium Distaff and Ain't Da Beer Cold (owned in partnership with Matt Spencer and Kelly Jo Cox) lost last year's Howard County Stakes by a nose.

"I haven't had that many stakes horses, but I've been photo-finished once and I lost to Anna's Bandit another time," Bonuccelli said.

He grew up in Bowie, Md., responded to emergency calls at Bowie Racetrack as a volunteer fireman, started going to the races, learned to bet and became a regular. He was at the track on Closing Day in 1985—"Feels like yesterday," he said. He and a friend owned some Standardbreds, then met Cox through a mutual friend and became a Thoroughbred owner. The stable goes nine deep now, with Past Perfect, in foal to Jess's Dream, at Dr. Mike Harrison's Willowdale Farm.

"You buy these babies, you hope they turn out," said Bonuccelli, who owns an electrical contracting firm in Crofton, Md. "Most of them never do, but he seems to be a nice horse. We're lucky."

Stakes results for Timonium

8/29 **Timonium Juvenile** ($125K). About 6½ F. 2YO.

Winner: **CYNERGY'S STAR** (b.g., Great Notion—Smooth Talking, by Dixie Union). B-Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Skeedattle Associates (Md.). O-Bonuccelli Racing. T-Kenneth M. Cox. J-Jevian Toledo. Time: 1:21.57. Margin: 2. 2nd: **Slaats**. 3rd: **Addy's Laddy T N T**.

TIMONIUM NOTES

Trainers Claudio Gonzalez and Charles "Snake" Frock took top honors in the $41,000 trainer bonus competition during the meet. For Maryland Jockey Club-based trainers with 11 stalls or more, the top five were Gonzalez ($10,000), Anthony Farrior ($5,000), Hugh McMahon ($2,500), John Salzman Jr. ($1,500) and Jerry Robb ($1,500). For MJC-based trainers with 10 or fewer stalls, the top five were Frock ($10,000); Valrie Smith and Charles A. Frock (each earned $3,750 via a tie); Ricardo D'Angelo ($1,500) and Cox ($1,500). Gonzalez led all trainers at the meet with six wins from 24 starts. Kieron Magee won four of five, with a second . . . J.D. Acosta led all jockeys with 10 wins, four more than Angel Cruz.

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According to Plan

Don't Call Me Mary shines in return to Pennsylvania for breeder Simoff

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY EQUI-PHOTO INC.

Richard Simoff follows a relatively simple business plan with his Thoroughbred breeding program. Breed the mares to mostly Pennsylvania stallions, foal the mares on his Twin Ponds Farm near Oxford, do the early training work himself, sell privately at a discount, hope the horses race at the Keystone State's three racetracks and–all going well–get paid on the back end via breeders' awards.

"Sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't," he said with a laugh in September. "By the time you sell them, you have $25,000 to $30,000 in them even doing it yourself like I do. But good luck trying to get that. I'll take a loss on the sale and try to pick and choose who I sell them to. I want them to run in Pennsylvania, and I want them to run where they can win."

Don't Call Me Mary followed the gameplan, at first anyway. Simoff said he sold the daughter of El Padrino and the Not For Love mare Monette for $20,000, and she made her first four starts for Touchdown Stable and Kamikaze Stable in Pennsylvania. Trained by Phil Aristone, she finished last in her debut as a 3-year-old in January 2020, broke her maiden by 13 lengths in February, finished second in allowance company in March and then ran 6 furlongs in 1:09.82 while winning a Penn National allowance in June.

Don't Call Me Mary gallops home with a stakes win in the Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial at Parx Racing in August.

Then came a deviation from the script as Don't Call Me Mary was sold to Madaket Stables, Mathis Stable and Brian Martin and moved to trainer Todd Pletcher. She ran at Saratoga and Gulfstream Park, posting an allowance win in March 2021 before changing hands again. The Elkstone Group purchased the 4-year-old for $150,000 at Keeneland's April horses-in-training sale. Still with Pletcher, Don't Call Me Mary rewarded that faith with an allowance score at Belmont Park in June. Sixth in Saratoga's Honorable Miss Stakes-G2 in July, the chestnut filly finally returned to Pennsylvania in August–blitzing five foes including the previously undefeated Chub Wagon in the $114,850 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial for Pennsylvania-breds at Parx Racing Aug. 23.

Nobody was happier than Simoff, whose breeders' award came to $29,700 (40 percent of Don't Call Me Mary's $74,250 earned as a Pennsylvania-sired winner of the stakes).

"I wasn't sure she'd ever come back to Pennsylvania," said the breeder. "She was running well, she had some big owners and stayed with Todd Pletcher, but he knows where to run his horses. When I see a homebred in [the entries] I like to see 5-2 not 52-1."

Bettors sent Don't Call Me Mary to the post at almost 6-1 against 2-5 favorite Chub Wagon in the 6-furlong Garofalo. Chug Wagon came in off eight wins including stakes scores at Parx, Pimlico (twice) and Delaware Park. The favorite broke in front from post three, but was immediately pressed by Don't Call Me Mary to the outside as the first fractions went by in :21.69 and :44.65. Don't Call Me Mary (Paco Lopez) went after Chub Wagon in the stretch, passed 5 furlongs in :57.00 and pulled away to win by 1¼ lengths in 1:09.57. Chub Wagon stayed for second with the Madaket co-owned Cinnabunny third. With a fifth win in 10 starts, Don't Call Me Mary pushed her career earnings to $212,060 and continued to flatter her dam.

Monette won a single race (with nine seconds and six thirds) in 40 starts as a racehorse. Her first two foals to race, bred by Salvatore Giuffrida, were winners, but she was headed toward a potential third career as a riding horse when Simoff spent $1,500 to add her to his broodmare band.

Call it instant success. Monette's foals for Simoff include six with more than

$200,000 in racetrack earnings. They've won 38 races and combined to bank just shy of $1.8 million (and counting).

"Everything she's thrown is a runner," Simoff said. "You could breed her to a donkey and they'd run."

Simoff hasn't exactly settled for donkeys, sending his mare to Stonecoldbroke, Louis Quatorze, Closing Argument, Rimrod, Friesan Fire, El Padrino (twice) and Hoppertunity. The squad includes $229,921-earner Billy Badpay, $306,880-earner Billygets Arrested, $237,926-earner Billy No Sabay, nine-time winner and $446,659-earner Checkbouncin Billy and 11-time winner and $365,161-earner Annika Gold.

You'll have to ask Simoff for the story about Billy, and new owners are free to change the names on unraced horses as evidenced by Don't Call Me Mary's handle. More importantly, the El Padrino mating that produced Don't Call Me Mary was simple, Simoff said.

"She's a Not For Love mare, he's a Pulpit sire, that's [two-time Horse of the Year] California Chrome, so I was trying to breed to that," he said. "I couldn't have predicted it would work like this, but that's what I was going for. Her 3-year-old full-brother is the only one that hasn't really turned out yet, and I liked him better, so you never know."

Monette, 24, is finished having foals. She didn't ovulate in 2021, and is retired on the farm. In a change of strategy for Simoff, her last foal, a yearling colt by Hoppertunity, heads to the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sale at Timonium, Md., as part of the Northview Stallion Station consignment.

"She looks good and she's happy turned out with the herd," Simoff said of his star mare. "I have four other mares besides her. That's my limit. People always ask if I'm going to get more mares when they see one doing well like she did. I tell them that they don't all do well. We know that, even though we're trying to get lightning to strike twice. You know the story, 'I'm going to breed a Derby winner someday . . .' "

Or at least a Pennsylvania-bred stakes winner.

HOMEBRED HEROES

Beyond Don't Call Me Mary, the Aug. 23 card included two other homebred stakes winners.

Precious won the off-the-turf Mrs. Penny Stakes for Newell Thoroughbreds and trainer John Servis. The 4-year-old filly ousted three rivals including Grade 2 winner Vault to post a third win in 2021 and fifth overall and push her career earnings to $252,020.

Owner/breeder Lawrence Rebbecchi picked up a stakes win with I Am Redeemed, who defeated seven others in the Storm Cat Stakes. Trained by Penny Pearce, the 3-year-old son of Redeemed and the Smarty Jones mare One Smart Philly, won for the third time in four starts (all this year) while reaching $112,200 in earnings. Pearce claimed One Smart Philly for $5,000 in 2015.

Admiral Abe broke through to become a stakes winner in the off-the-turf Marshall Jenney Stakes for owner Stefcon Racing and trainer Robert Mosco.

The 5-year-old Midshipman gelding won for the 10th time in 26 starts and pushed his earnings to $420,142, most of it since being claimed by his current connections in January 2020.

Maryland sire Bourbon Courage added a stakes win when Fortheluvofbourbon sprinted home first in the Banjo Picker Stakes for Smart Angle and trainer Michael Pino. Bred in Pennsylvania by Hidden Acres 4-D Farm, the 4-year-old gelding collected his fifth win and pushed his earnings to $201,240 with a third in allowance company Sept. 13.

NOTES: After losing to Don't Call Me Mary, Chub Wagon wasted little time getting back on the winning side of the ledger as she won the Roamin Rachel Stakes at Parx Sept. 6 . . . Beren collected his sixth win of 2021 in the Parx Summer Sprint Aug. 24, a card that included the Cathryn Sophia Stakes, won by Allied Racing Stables' homebred Lovely Ride for trainer Bret Calhoun, and the Grade 3 Smarty Jones taken down by Juddmonte Farms' homebred Fulsome for trainer Brad Cox.

Stakes results for Parx Racing

8/23 Banjo Picker Sprint ($100K). 6 F. Reg. PA-Bred, 3&up.

Winner: **FORTHELUVOFBOURBON** (b.g., 4, Bourbon Courage—Nosubstituteforluv, by Not For Love). B-Hidden Acres 4-D (Pa.). O-Smart Angle LLP. T-Michael V. Pino. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:10.51. Margin: neck. 2nd: **Golden Candy**. 3rd: **Prince of Rain**.

8/23 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial ($100K). 6 F. Reg. PA-Bred, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **DON'T CALL ME MARY** (ch.f., 4, El Padrino—Monette, by Not For Love). B-Richard Simoff (Pa.). O-The Elkstone Group LLC (Stuart Grant). T-Todd A. Pletcher. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:09.57. Margin: 1¼. 2nd: **Chub Wagon**. 3rd: **Cinnabunny**.

8/23 Marshall Jenney ($100K). 5 F. (Off Turf). Reg. PA-Bred, 3&up.

Winner: **ADMIRAL ABE** (ch.g., 6, Midshipman—Precious Penny, by Harlan's Holiday). B-White Diamond Inc. and Five Ring Stables (Pa.). O-Stefcon Racing. T-Robert Mosco. J-Silvestre Gonzalez. Time: :56.99. Margin: 1¾. 2nd: **Smooth B**. 3rd: **Screen Saver**.

8/23 Mrs. Penny ($100K). 1 1/16 mi. (Off Turf). Reg. PA-Bred, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **PRECIOUS** (dk.b./br.f., 4, Fed Biz—Brilliant Sunshine, by Smarty Jones). B/O-Newell Thoroughbreds (Pa.). T-John C. Servis. J-Frankie Pennington. Time: 1:45.16. Margin: 1¼. 2nd: **Vault**. 3rd: **Trolley Ride**.

8/23 Storm Cat ($100K). 1 1/16 mi. Reg. PA-Bred, 3&up.

Winner: **I AM REDEEMED** (b.c., 3, Redeemed—One Smart Philly, by Smarty Jones). B/O-Dr. Lawrence Anthony Rebbecchi Jr. (Pa.). T-Penny Pearce. J-Abner Adorno. Time: 1:44.24. Margin: 3½. 2nd: **Lord Winsalot**. 3rd: **Irish Cork**.

8/24 Smarty Jones-G3 ($300K). 1 1/16 mi. 3YO.

Winner: **FULSOME** (b.c., Into Mischief—Flourish, by Distorted Humor). B/O-Juddmonte Farms Inc. (Ky.). T-Brad H. Cox. J-Florent Geroux. Time: 1:45.57. Margin: 2. 2nd: **Alonzo**. 3rd: **The King Cheek**.

8/24 Cathryn Sophia ($150K). 1 mi. 70 yds. 3YO F.

Winner: **LOVELY RIDE** (b.f., Candy Ride-Arg—Lovely Lil, by Tiznow). B/O-Allied Racing Stable LLC (Ky.). T-W. Bret Calhoun. J-Reylu Gutierrez. Time: 1:42.66. Margin: ½. 2nd: **Leader of the Band**. 3rd: **Marion Francis**.

8/24 Parx Summer Sprint ($100K). 6 F. 3YO.

Winner: **BEREN** (b.c., Weigelia—Silmaril, by Diamond). B-Susan C. Quick and Christopher J. Feifarek (Pa.). O-St. Omer's Farm and Christopher J. Feifarek. T-Robert E. Reid Jr. J-Frankie Pennington. Time: 1:10.19. Margin: 6½. 2nd: **Marvalous Mike**. 3rd: **Privet Moon**.

8/31 Parx Dash-G3 ($200K). 5 F. Turf. 3&up.

Winner: **THE CRITICAL WAY** (dk.b./br.g., 7, Tizway—Critical Factor, by Star de Naskra). B-Blackstone Farm (Pa.). O-Monster Racing Stables. T-Jose H. Delgado. J-Paco Lopez. Time: :58.55. Margin: nose. 2nd: **Battle Station**. 3rd: **Francatelli**.

Looking Up

Virginia's racetrack makes most of return to full racing schedule

BY PAUL HALLORAN. PHOTOGRAPHS BY COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

The stakes were high this year at Colonial Downs, after a disastrous 2020 meet that was summarily ruined by a combination of the pandemic and the weather, with management pulling the plug after only four full cards of racing.

"We may have lost the battle in 2020, but we're really determined that we are going to win the war," said John Marshall, executive vice president of operations, when the decision was made to cancel the remaining nine days last year.

Isaiah himself would be impressed with Marshall's prophesying skills because, as comebacks go, the 2021 Colonial Downs meet was Lazarus material.

"We had great expectations and, with a lot of things falling into place, we exceeded those expectations," said Jill Byrne, vice president of racing. "It was a very successful meet."

Had rain not forced races to be taken off the turf three days, it would have been near-perfect.

Among the highlights:

- Total handle of $46.9 million, an average of $2.23 million per day, almost twice as much as the last full meet in 2019.
- Record one-day handle of $4.88 million on Virginia Derby Day.
- $10.4 million in purses, an average of $522,000 a day.
- Ten races for Virginia-breds with an aggregate $1 million in purses.
- 1,713 starters in 205 races, an average field size of almost 8.4.
- Zero racing fatalities.
- $50,000 donation to the Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance by Colonial Downs and the Virginia HBPA.

"I think it went as well or better than any of us could have hoped," said Debbie Easter, executive director of the Virginia Thoroughbred Association. "I hope we made believers out of some people."

The horsemen would fit into that group.

"We thought it was excellent," said Frank Petramalo, executive director of the Virginia HBPA. "There were good field sizes, the track surfaces were outstanding and the racing was very competitive. The horsemen went out of their way to be complimentary."

That includes Ferris Allen, a Mid-Atlantic trainer for the last 45 years who has never missed a Colonial Downs meet, including the track's first, from 1997-2013.

"They understate it," Allen said, when asked about Colonial's role in the revival of racing in Virginia, birthplace of the incomparable Secretariat. "The new Colonial is leaps and bounds better than the old Colonial."

The Colonial Downs Group, which also owns the adjacent Rosie's Gaming Emporium casino, bought the track in 2018 and reopened it in 2019, running 15 days. There were 18 days scheduled last year, but weather caused three cancellations and a Covid-19 outbreak at the track led to management pulling the plug with three weeks to go.

"It was extremely important for horsemen and management to take a big step forward in the second full season of racing," Petramalo said.

It was especially meaningful for Byrne, a Virginia native and University of Virginia graduate.

"I put a great deal of pressure on myself to succeed," she said. "The Thoroughbred industry has been my life since I was born. Virginia is home. When you have a season like this and get the feedback we got, it's very humbling and gives you a great sense of pride."

Byrne is quick to credit her team at Colonial that includes racing secretary Allison DeLuca, track superintendent Ken Brown, racing operations manager Jeff Wingrove and announcer Jason Beem. One newcomer was a big hit this year – paddock analyst and handicapper Jessica Paquette, former director of communications at Suffolk Downs in Massachusetts.

"I had the time of my life," Paquette said. "It's nice when you realize you still have a place in racing."

"They put together a fabulous team down there," Allen said. "It's pretty amazing the job they did to conduct a 21-day meet."

The meet featured down-to-the-wire races for leading trainer and jockey, the latter of which ended in a dead heat when Horacio Karamanos and Joe Rocco Jr. logged 20 wins apiece. Karamanos was victorious in a rock, paper, scissors tiebreaker.

Veteran trainer Hamilton Smith captured the title with a win on closing day, giving him 10 for the meet, one more than Michelle Lovell, a Kentucky-based conditioner who brought a string to Colonial Downs for the first time. Mike Trombetta led by earnings – $491,650 – and Larry Johnson was the leading owner with six wins.

"I wasn't expecting it," said Smith, who has more than 2,060 wins in a career that dates back to 1977, when he saddled his first winner, Pabida, at Suffolk Downs. "We started slow in July and had a good August. The last week, there were five trainers who had a shot to win it. That shows how competitive a meet it was."

Like most Kentucky trainers, Lovell needed a home base after Churchill Downs closed in June to install a new turf course. She weighed her options, which included Ellis Park and Saratoga, and decided to bring 22 horses to Colonial Downs. After nine wins and $422,750 in purses, she was thrilled with her choice.

"I have a lot of turf horses in my barn, so Colonial was on my radar," said Lovell, who had two horses win twice at the meet, including Just Might, who won the Da Hoss Stakes on turf and the Chesapeake on the dirt. The Chesapeake was one of four $100,000 stakes run as part of the Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championship series.

"We had to take a chance and move," Lovell said. "It was a great adventure and we won a lot of races. I had heard great things about the track surfaces. The turf course was amazing. It looked the same the day we left as it did the day we got there."

The Colonial Downs form held up well, as Just Might returned to win the Louisville Thoroughbred Society Stakes at Churchill Downs Sept. 18, while Colonial maiden-breaker Hidden Connection romped in the Pocahontas-G3 on the same card at

Top: Wootton Asset scores in the Virginia Derby, one of the highlights at Colonial Downs this summer. Right: Flippant stays clear to capture the Virginia Oaks.

Churchill, earning a berth in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies.

Graham Motion took the Virginia Derby for the second consecutive time (it was not run in 2020) and third in five years when Jose Ortiz piloted Wootton Asset (Fr) to a win and survived an inquiry and objection. Motion won the Derby with English Bee in 2019 and Just Howard in 2017, when it was run at Laurel.

"The horse has always wanted firm ground. He ran a super race and it was good to have Jose there," Motion said.

Like virtually everyone else, Motion, who had five winners from 17 starters, was impressed with the meet. "The quality of racing was probably the best it's ever been," he said. "It's such a relief as a trainer with a lot of turf horses to ship down there knowing you're going to run on one of the best turf courses in the country. It's become a real fixture for us."

Flippant, a G. Watts Humphrey Jr. homebred trained by Kentucky-based Vicki Oliver, took the Virginia Oaks under Rafael Bejarano. Virginia-bred stakes winners included: Determined Kingdom, Urban Fairytale, Tasting the Stars, Virginia Beach, Passion Play and Boldor.

"Virginia has a deep history in Thoroughbred racing," Byrne said. "The first horse races were run on the shores of Virginia and the greatest horse of all time was born and raised in Virginia . . . The HHR [Historical Horse Racing] machines are helping us bring the Virginia breeding industry back to life."

That's welcome news for trainers such as Allen, a Virginia native and Colonial's all-time leading trainer, recording 315 of his more than 2,230 career wins there.

Colonial Downs hosted two non-betting steeplechase races on Mondays. Virginia-based trainer Neil Morris won four of those races.

It seems likely that Colonial will add racing dates, possibly going to 27 next year with an ultimate goal of 30, according to Petramalo.

"I hope we can get to 30 days as quickly as possible," Easter said.

Epic Luck pays off with stakes win for Ashby

By Paul Halloran

The resurgence of Colonial Downs was very much a Virginia story, but that didn't stop a Delaware-based Pennsylvania-bred from running into the spotlight.

Epic Luck, owned by Mark Ashby and William Gotwals, and trained by Lynn Ashby, led every step in the $100,000 Kitten's Joy, one of two open stakes for 2-year-olds at the meet, becoming Lynn Ashby's first homebred stakes winner. She co-bred the horse with Gotwals.

"We were thrilled," said Ashby, whose primary business is managing Sharp Farm in Delaware, where she and her husband prepare yearlings for their racing career for clients that include Mary Eppler, Dale and Gary Capuano, John Servis, John Robb and Claudio Gonzalez. They broke 106 yearlings in 2020, though in a typical year the number is closer to 60-65, she said.

Ashby keeps a small racing stable as well, running primarily in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

"This baby has surprised us," she said of the son of Madefromlucky out of the

Colonel John mare A Dicey Dame. "I'm normally not keen to run 2-year-olds, but I've had four win this year. I don't push them."

At 7-1, Epic Luck was the longest shot on the board in the Kitten's Joy, which drew only six entries and five starters. Aubrie Green took the gelding right to the lead in the 1⅛-mile turf race through fractions of :25.53 and :50.41. Green saved ground on both turns and when the horse came under pressure pulled away in the stretch to win by 2¼ lengths.

"She threw a cross at him and he drew off," Ashby said. "He was a little green and drifted out, but I know he had a lot left in the tank."

Ashby and Gotwals bought A Dicey Dame–who ran only once before being retired due to injury–from Phyllis Wyeth, breeder of Belmont Stakes-G1 winner Union Rags. Her first foal, Frame That Dame, a Maryland-bred filly by Imagining, is 0-for-2 and scheduled to return to the races this fall, Ashby said. The mare has a weanling by Tonalist and is in foal to Hoppertunity.

Epic Luck is her second foal and he broke his maiden at Delaware July 28, nine days after being scratched due to obstreperous behavior. "Could not get the rider on the horse in the paddock," reads the official explanation from the Delaware Racing Commission.

Ashby schooled Epic Luck in the paddock three times before entering him in the maiden optional claimer nine days later, a mile dirt race in which he was protected due to being Delaware-certified.

That turned out to be a glorified workout, with Epic Luck opening a 2-length lead in the first quarter-mile and extending it to 10¾ lengths at the finish.

"His breezes were fine, but nothing to write home about," said Ashby, who has raced horses in her name since 1995, but never started more than 90 in a year. She had won 89 races and $3.65 million in purses in her career through mid-September. "He never wants to pull up. The further he goes the better he's going to be."

So far, so good.

"It's been a fun ride so far. It's nothing you can force," Ashby said. "Who knows what we have?"

She looks forward to finding out. ✹

Stakes results for Colonial Downs

8/9 Van Clief ($100K). 1⅛ mi. Turf. Reg. VA-Bred/Sired/Cert, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **PRINCESS THEOREM** (b.f., 3, Nyquist—Princess Haya, by Street Cry-Ire). B-Barry Becker and Judith Becker (Ky.). O-Dewberry Thoroughbred LLC. T-Brendan P. Walsh. J-Joseph Rocco Jr. Time: 1:43.02. Margin: 1¾. 2nd: **No Mo Lady**. 3rd: **Fionnbharr**.

8/9 Randolph D. Rouse ($75K). 2 mi. Hurdles. 4&up, F&M.

Winner: **SCREEN IMAGE** (ch.m., 6, Giant's Causeway—Screen Gem, by Dynaformer). B-George Krikorian (Ky.). O/T-Theodore C. Gregory. J-Eddie Keating. Time: 3:37.20. Margin: 4¼. 2nd: **Down Royal**. 3rd: **Lizzy (Fr)**.

8/23 Chesapeake ($100K). 6 F. 3&up.

Winner: **JUST MIGHT** (ch.g., 5, Justin Phillip—Dynamite Babe, by Dynameaux). B/O-Griffon Farms and Michelle Lovell (Ky.). T-Michelle Lovell. J-Colby J. Hernandez. Time: 1:07.93. Margin: head. 2nd: **Mucho**. 3rd: **Bank**.

8/23 Love Sign ($100K). 1⅛ mi. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **SARACOSA** (b.m., 6, Bernardini—Homeschooling, by Medaglia d'Oro). B-Meritage Ventures Inc. (Ky.). O-Chad Schumer. T-Cipriano Contreras. J-Francisco Arrieta. Time: 1:39.72 (ntr). Margin: 1½. 2nd: **Dream Marie**. 3rd: **Paris Lights**.

8/23 Seeking the Pearl ($100K). 7 F. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **CHEETARA (CHI)** (ch.f., 4, Daddy Long Legs—Frescura Total, by Thunder Gulch). B-No Registrado (Chile). O-Stud Los Leones. T-Ignacio Correas IV. J-Horacio Karamanos. Time: 1:21.00. Margin: neck. 2nd: **Never Enough Time**. 3rd: **Frank's Rockette**.

8/23 Victory Gallop ($100K). 1⅛ mi. 3&up.

Winner: **CORDMAKER** (ch.g., 6, Curlin—Tanca, by Polish Numbers). B-Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss (Md.). O-Hillwood Stable. T-Rodney Jenkins. J-Victor R. Carrasco. Time: 1:40.45 (ntr). Margin: 2¼. 2nd: **McElmore Avenue**. 3rd: **Rock On Luke**.

8/31 Virginia Derby-G3 ($250K). 1⅛ mi. Turf. 3YO.

Winner: **WOOTTON ASSET (FR)** (dk.b./br.c., Wootton Bassett—Love Liu, by Librettist). B-Ecurie Haras Du Cadran and Mme. Patrick Ades-Hazan (France). O-Madaket Stables LLC. T-H. Graham Motion. J-Jose L. Ortiz. Time: 1:46.79. Margin: ¾. 2nd: **Slicked Back**. 3rd: **It Can Be Done**.

8/31 Virginia Oaks ($150K). 1⅛ mi. Turf. 3YO F.

Winner: **FLIPPANT** (gr./ro.f., Tapit—Frivolous, by Empire Maker). B/O-G. Watts Humphrey Jr. (Ky.). T-Victoria H. Oliver. J-Rafael Bejarano. Time: 1:46.47 (ncr). Margin: 1¼. 2nd: **Invincible Gal (GB)**. 3rd: **Gold for Kitten**.

8/31 Old Nelson ($150K). 1⅛ mi. Turf. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **TUNED (GB)** (ch.m., 5, Toronado-Ire—Zagora-Fr, by Green Tune). B/O-Al Shaqab Racing (Great Britain). T-H. Graham Motion. J-Jose L. Ortiz. Time: 1:41.93. Margin: neck. 2nd: **Market Rumor**. 3rd: **Our Bay B Ruth**.

8/31 Kitten's Joy ($100K). 1⅛ mi. Turf. 2YO.

Winner: **EPIC LUCK** (b.g., Madefromlucky—A Dicey Dame, by Colonel John). B-Lynn A. Ashby and William Gotwals (Pa.). O-Mark J. Ashby and William R. Gotwals. T-Lynn A. Ashby. J-Aubrie Green. Time: 1:44.19. Margin: 2¼. 2nd: **Gold Heritage**. 3rd: **C My Meister**.

8/31 Rosie's ($100K). 5½ F. Turf. 2YO.

Winner: **TRUST OUR JOURNEY** (ch.c., American Pharoah—Tribal Music, by A. P. Warrior). B-Hallmarc Stallions LLC and R Star Stallions (Fla.). O-Palm Beach Racing. T-Carlos A. David. J-Julian Pimentel. Time: 1:02.94. Margin: neck. 2nd: **Tejano Twist**. 3rd: **Wish Me Home**.

9/1 Brookmeade ($100K). 1⅛ mi. Turf. Reg. VA-Bred or Sired, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **URBAN FAIRYTALE** (b.f., 4, Distorted Humor—Fairytale Ending-Ire, by Galileo-Ire). B-Audley Farm Equine LLC (Va.). O-Winchester Place Thoroughbreds LLC. T-Ian R. Wilkes. J-Chris Landeros. Time: 1:44.35. Margin: 1. 2nd: **Tasting the Stars**. 3rd: **Fionnbharr**.

9/1 Camptown ($100K). 5½ F. Turf. Reg. VA-Bred or Sired, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **VIRGINIA BEACH** (b.f., 4, Twirling Candy—Enterprise Beach, by El Prado-Ire). B-Mr. and Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III (Va.).O-Country Life Farm. T-Michael J. Trombetta. J-Julian Pimentel. Time: 1:04.70. Margin: 1½. 2nd: **Tea in China**. 3rd: **Not My Money**.

9/1 Edward P. Evans ($100K). 1 mi. Turf. Reg. VA-Bred or Sired, 3&up.

Winner: **PASSION PLAY** (b.g., 5, Hold Me Back—Stylish Affair, by Not For Love). B-Mr. and Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III (Va.). O-Reiley McDonald. T-Mary E. Eppler. J-Horacio Karamanos. Time: 1:37.15. Margin: 1½. 2nd: **American Dubai**. 3rd: **Uncle Andrew**.

9/1 Jamestown ($100K). 5½ F. Turf. Reg. VA-Bred or Sired, 2YO.

Winner: **DETERMINED KINGDOM** (b.g., Animal Kingdom—Filia, by Fastnet Rock). B-Audley Farm Equine LLC (Va.). O-D Hatman Thoroughbreds and Kingdom Bloodstock Inc. T-Phil Schoenthal. J-Victor Rosales. Time: 1:03.27. Margin: 2¾. 2nd: **Continentalcongres**. 3rd: **C J 's Cat Five**.

9/1 Punch Line ($100K). 5½ F. Turf. Reg. VA-Bred or Sired, 3&up.

Winner: **BOLDOR** (b.g., 5, Munnings—Senate Caucus, by Siphon-Brz). B-Carlos S.E. Moore and Gillian Gordon-Moore (Va.). O-Ed Orr and Susie Orr. T-Steven M. Asmussen. J-Feargal Lynch. Time: 1:03.15. Margin: 2½. 2nd: **Elusive Mischief**. 3rd: **Braxton**.

Going Long

Trainer Gonzalez, teenage Marquez shine at extended Preakness Meet

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM MCCUE

Pimlico's leading jockey Charlie Marquez, has been led to the post by his mother Val Kounelis on occasion.

Pimlico Race Course brought the curtain down on its extended Preakness meet Aug. 22 with veteran Claudio Gonzalez and teenager Charlie Marquez formally wrapping up their respective titles as leading trainer and jockey.

Gonzalez concluded the two-month stand with 41 wins, more than twice that of runner-up Dale Capuano (19) and third place Kieron Magee (18). It marked the second consecutive Preakness Meet title and 17th overall in Maryland for Gonzalez. Among Gonzalez's meet highlights were stakes wins by Harpers First Ride in the July 31 Deputed Testamony, and a double on the April 24 card with Miss Leslie in the Weber City Miss and Completed Pass in the King T. Leatherbury.

Originally scheduled to run May 6-31, the Preakness meet began April 22 when racing was shifted from Laurel Park following an equine herpesvirus outbreak and later extended due to a complete reconstruction of Laurel's main track.

Horses and personnel, relocated to various facilities including Pimlico and the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium, returned to Laurel Aug. 8.

"It feels good," Gonzalez said. "It was a little different this year. The good thing for me is, I had my horses at Pimlico and I believe that's better for the horses when you're training where you run. It makes it easier for us and the help, everybody. They do the hard work. Everybody sees my name or another title, but if you don't have the right help, I don't make it. It's the truth. I have to thank all my help."

Gonzalez has won both full meets in Maryland this year following Laurel's winter stand, and was leading its spring meet standings when live racing was moved to Pimlico after just four days. He has been Maryland's overall leading trainer by wins each of the past four years.

Marquez, 18, captured the first race on Pimlico's closing day aboard Lost Uncle to give him 49 wins. J.D. Acosta finished second with 39, one ahead of Jevian Toledo in third.

It was the first riding title for Marquez, a native of Columbia, Md., whose 58 wins made him Maryland's leading apprentice of 2020. He had two or more wins on a single card 14 times at the Preakness meet, during which he graduated to journeyman status May 30 and also posted multi-win days at Colonial Downs and Delaware Park.

Marquez is represented by Tom Stift. Marty Leonard, who has Sheldon Russell and Toledo as clients, had been booking mounts for Marquez, but agents are not allowed to carry three journeymen.

"It means a lot to me," Marquez said. "We moved here in April and to hold the lead all the way until now is pretty hard to do, a lot of the riders say. I'm proud of myself, and I can't help but think of and thank everyone that helped me. My mom, who brought me up and got me familiar with everyone. My agents, that put me on live horses. Just everyone that gave me opportunities, really. Everything goes to them. I'm just the passenger."

Robert Bone and Super C Racing finished in a tie as leading owner with nine wins, one more than Joe Besecker.

After the State Fair meet at Timonium Aug. 27-29 and Sept. 3-6, racing returned to Laurel Park for its calendar year-ending fall stand starting Sept. 9.

Stakes results for Pimlico

8/21 All Brandy ($75K). 1 1/16 mi. Turf. Reg. MD-Bred or Sired, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **KISS THE GIRL** (b.f., 4, Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun). B-Classic Thoroughbred XII (Md.). O-Three Diamonds Farm. T-Michael J. Trombetta. J-Victor R. Carrasco. Time: 1:48.53. Margin: neck. 2nd: **Awesome Jazz**. 3rd: **Holly's Lady**.

8/21 Find ($75K). 1 1/16 mi. Turf. Reg. MD-Bred or Sired, 3&up.

Winner: **SOMEKINDOFMAGICIAN** (dk.b./br.g., 7, Street Magician—Love Is Kind, by Not For Love). B-Earl Barnhart (Md.). O-Bell Gable Stable LLC. T-Gary C. Contessa. J-Angel Cruz. Time: 1:48.13. Margin: 1 3/4. 2nd: **Nick Papagiorgio**. 3rd: **Alwaysmining**.

8/21 Miss Disco ($75K). 6 F. Reg. MD-Bred or Sired, 3YO F.

Winner: **MALIBU BEAUTY** (b.f., Buffum—Slow and Steady, by Malibu Moon). B/O-ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable (Md.). T-Gary Capuano. J-Sheldon Russell. Time: 1:11.48. Margin: 4 1/2. 2nd: **Hitch a Ride**. 3rd: **My My Girl**.

8/21 Star de Naskra ($75K). 6 F. Reg. MD-Bred or Sired, 3YO.

Winner: **JAXON TRAVELER** (dk.b./br.c., Munnings—Listen Boy, by After Market). B-Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau (Md.). O-West Point Thoroughbreds and Marvin Delfiner. T-Steven M. Asmussen. J-Sheldon Russell. Time: 1:10.21. Margin: 3. 2nd: **Alwaysinahurry**. 3rd: **Cry No More**.

REGIONAL STAKES RECAPS

Stakes results for Delaware Park

8/16 Cape Henlopen ($75K). 1½ mi. Turf. 3&up.

Winner: **OCEANS MAP** (dk.b./br.g., 4, Liam's Map—Part the Seas, by Stormy Atlantic). B-Glencrest Farm LLC (Ky.). O/T-Gregory D. Sacco. J-Isaac Castillo. Time: 2:26.53. Margin: 1½. 2nd: **Real Factor**. 3rd: **Cibolian**.

8/25 Blue Hen ($50K). 5½ F. DE-Bred or Certified 2YO F.

Winner: **CASHING BIG CHECKS** (b.f., Mr. Big—Palisadesprincess, by Indian Charlie). B-George Krikorian (Calif). O-Troy Johnson and Jagger Inc. T-Jamie Ness. J-Jaime Rodriguez. Time: 1:05.38. Margin: nose. 2nd: **Mama G's Wish**. 3rd: **My Boss**.

8/26 Dover ($50K). 5½ F. DE-Bred or Certified 2YO.

Winner: **REBEL EMPIRE** (dk.b./br.g., Sky Kingdom—Rebel Lady, by Yankee Gentleman). B-Ron and Betsy Sapp LLC (N.Y.). O-Ronald E. Sapp. T-Lynn A. Ashby. J-Aubrie Green. Time: 1:04.41. Margin: 4. 2nd: **No Sabe Nada**. 3rd: **Under the Radar**.

Stakes results for Presque Isle Downs

8/16 Lady Erie ($75K). 6 F. 3YO F.

Winner: **BULLSEYE BEAUTY** (b.f., Dialed In—Figure of Beauty, by Street Cry-Ire). B/O-L. Neil Jones (Ky.). T-Andrew McKeever. J-James Graham. Time: 1:08.76. Margin: 2¼. 2nd: **Risky Reward**. 3rd: **Lexinator**.

8/23 Karl Boyes ($75K). 6 F. 3&up.

Winner: **LIFE MISSION** (ch.g., 5, Noble Mission (GB)—Crossing the Tape, by Johannesburg). B-Trace Wood Farm (Ky.). O/T-Leland Hayes. J-Pablo Morales. Time: 1:09.31. Margin: 1½. 2nd: **Mojo Man**. 3rd: **More Than Good**.

8/30 Satin and Lace ($75K). 6 F. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **BETWIXTING** (b.m., 5, Macho Uno—Between the Clouds, by Sky Classic). B-Sun Valley Farm (Ky.). O-Barry Butzer and Martin Drexler. T-Martin Drexler. J-Patrick Husbands. Time: 1:09.06. Margin: ¾. 2nd: **O'Keeffe**. 3rd: **Praise and Honor**.

Stakes results for Monmouth

8/7 Tyro ($100K). 5 F. Turf. 2YO.

Winner: **HER WORLD (IRE)** (gr./ro.f., Caravaggio—Mundus Novus, by Unbridled's Song). B-Lynch Bages Ltd. and Rhinestone Bloodstock (Ireland). O-Andrew Farm, Susan Molton, For The People Racing Stable LLC and Windmill Manor Farm. T-Wesley A. Ward. J-Paco Lopez. Time: :56.62. Margin: 6. 2nd: **Trust Our Journey**. 3rd: **Baytown Warrior**.

8/8 Oceanport ($100K). 1 1/16 mi. (Off Turf). 3&up.

Winner: **RAASED** (gr./ro.h., 5, Tapit—Emtyazat-GB, by Gone West). B-Shadwell Farm LLC (Ky.). O-Candido Esquivel. T-Alison Escobar. J-Heriberto Figueroa. Time: 1:44.43. Margin: 19¼. 2nd: **Crown and Sugar**. 3rd: **Island Commish**.

8/14 Incredible Revenge ($100K). 5½ F. Turf. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **INTRODUCED** (ch.m., 5, El Padrino—Stuttgart, by Cherokee Run). B-Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC (Md.). O-Colts Neck Stables LLC. T-Jorge Duarte Jr. J-Albin Jimenez. Time: 1:02.50. Margin: ¾. 2nd: **Running Memories**. 3rd: **No Mercy Percy**.

8/15 Jersey Shore ($100K). 6 F. 3YO.

Winner: **REAL TALK** (b.c., Gemologist—Woodland Park, by Bernardini). B-Ocala Stud (Fla.). O-Bell Racing LLC. T-Carlos A. David. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:10.02. Margin: 4½. 2nd: **Mighty Mischief**. 3rd: **Moonlite Strike**.

8/21 Philip H. Iselin-G3 ($250K). 1 1/16 mi. 3&up.

Winner: **CODE OF HONOR** (ch.h., 5, Noble Mission-GB—Reunited, by Dixie Union). B/O-W.S. Farish (Ky.). T-Claude R. McGaughey III. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:42.38. Margin: 2½. 2nd: **West Will Power**. 3rd: **Phat Man**.

8/28 Miss Liberty ($100K). 1 1/16 mi. Turf. 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **VIGILANTES WAY** (b.f., 4, Medaglia d'Oro—Salute, by Unbridled). B/O-Phipps Stable (Ky.). T-Claude R. McGaughey III. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:43.14. Margin: ½. 2nd: **Miss Teheran (Ire)**. 3rd: **Counterparty Risk (Ire)**.

8/28 Rainbow Heir ($100K). About 5½ F. Turf. 3&up.

Winner: **BELGRANO** (b.g., 7, War Front—Ask the Moon, by Malibu Moon). B-Stonestreet Thoroughbred Holdings LLC (Ky.). O-Peace Sign Stables. T-Frank Russo. J-Isaac Castillo. Time: 1:02.52. Margin: 2. 2nd: **Grateful Bred**. 3rd: **The Connector**.

8/29 Charles Hesse III ($125K). 1 1/16 mi. Reg. NJ-Bred, 3&up.

Winner: **AMATTEROFTIME** (ch.g., 6, Eskendereya—Victory Pool, by Victory Gallop). B-New Farm (N.J.). O/T-Silvino Ramirez. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:44.49. Margin: 4¾. 2nd: **Prendimi**. 3rd: **Optic Way**.

8/29 Eleven North ($100K). 6 F. Reg. NJ-Bred, 3&up, F&M.

Winner: **ALTA VELOCITA** (dk.b./br.m., 5, Il Postino—Over the Bridge, by Hit the Trail). B-Law Legacy Stables LLC (N.J.). O-Imaginary Stables and M3 Racing Stable. T-Andrew L. Simoff. J-Paco Lopez. Time: 1:10.45. Margin: nose. 2nd: **Jersey Jewel**. 3rd: **Achieving Glory**.

8/29 New Jersey Breeders ($100K). 6 F. Reg. NJ-Bred, 3&up.

Winner: **PICKIN' TIME** (dk.b./br.c., 3, Stay Thirsty—Born to Royalty, by King of Kings-Ire). B-John Bowers Jr. (N.J.). O-Roseland Farm Stable (Bowers). T-Kelly J. Breen. J-Nik Juarez. Time: 1:09.58. Margin: 1¾. 2nd: **Golden Brown**. 3rd: **Dr. Doyle**.

STAKES WINNERS

Complete statistics on 2021 Mid-Atlantic-bred stakes winners available at MidAtlanticTB.com, including interactive pedigrees, race records, produce records of dam, and more.

Pennsylvania-bred The Critical Way, one of the top turf sprinters on the east coast, got the first graded stakes win of his career in the Parx Dash-G3 in August.

Maryland-bred

CORDMAKER, ch.g., 2015, Curlin—Tanca, by Polish Numbers. Bred by Robert T. Manfuso & Katharine M. Voss; owned by Hillwood Stable LLC; trained by Rodney Jenkins. $100,000 **Harrison E. Johnson Memorial S**, 1⅛ mi., 4&up, Laurel, March 13; $100,000 **Victory Gallop S**, 1 1/16 mi., 3&up, Colonial, Aug. 23; 3rd **John B. Campbell S, Deputed Testamony S, Jennings S**.

CYNERGY'S STAR, b.g., 2019, Great Notion—Smooth Talking, by Dixie Union. Bred by Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Bowman & Skeedattle Associates; owned by Bonuccelli Racing; trained by Kenneth M. Cox. $125,000 **Timonium Juvenile S** (includes $50,000 for MD-bred & MD-sired), abt. 6½ fur., 2YO, Timonium, Aug. 29.

EXCULPATORY, b.c., 2018, Mineshaft—Elusory, by Broken Vow. Bred by Anchor & Hope Farm Inc. & Finn's Nickel LLC; owned by Grace Merryman; trained by Mark J. Reid. $150,000 **Robert Hilton Memorial S**, 7 fur., 3YO, Charles Town, Aug. 27.

FUELED BY The Mill

INTRODUCED, ch.m., 2016, El Padrino—Stuttgart, by Cherokee Run. Bred by Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC; owned by Colts Neck Stables LLC; trained by Jorge Duarte Jr. $100,000 **Incredible Revenge S**, 5½ fur., turf, F&M, 3&up, Monmouth, Aug. 14.

JAXON TRAVELER, dk.b./br.c., 2018, Munnings—Listen Boy, by After Market. Bred by Dr. & Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau; owned by West Point Thoroughbreds & Marvin Delfiner; trained by Steven M. Asmussen. $200,000 **Bachelor S**, 6 fur., 3YO, Oaklawn, April 24; $75,000 **Star de Naskra S**, 6 fur., registered MD-bred or sired 3YO, Pimlico, Aug. 21; 2nd **Chick Lang S-G3, Woodstock S, Gazebo S**; 3rd **Quick Call S-G3**.

KISS THE GIRL, b.f., 2017, Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun. Bred by Classic Thoroughbred XII; owned by Three Diamonds Farm; trained by Michael J. Trombetta. $75,000 **Conniver S**, 7 fur., registered MD-bred or sired F&M, 4&up, Laurel, March 13; $75,000 **All Brandy S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered MD-bred or sired F&M, 3&up, Pimlico, Aug. 21; 2nd **Geisha S**.

MALIBU BEAUTY, b.f., 2018, Buffum—Slow and Steady, by Malibu Moon. Bred & owned by ZWP Stable Inc. & Non Stop Stable; trained by Gary A. Capuano. $75,000 **Miss Disco S**, 6 fur., registered MD-bred or sired 3-year-old fillies, Pimlico, Aug. 21; 2nd **Stormy Blues S**.

RUNUP, b.f., 2019, Runhappy—Up the Street, by Street Cry (Ire). Bred & owned by James McIngvale; trained by Laura Wohlers. $200,000 **Sorority S**, 1 mi., 2-year-old fillies, Monmouth, Sept. 6.

SOMEKINDOFMAGICIAN, dk.b./br.g., 2014, Street Magician—Love Is Kind, by Not For Love. Bred by Earl Barnhart; owned by Bell Gable Stable LLC; trained by Gary C. Contessa. $75,000 **Find S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered MD-bred or sired, 3&up, Pimlico, Aug. 21.

New Jersey-bred

ALTA VELOCITA, dk.b./br.m., 2016, Il Postino—Over the Bridge, by Hit the Trail. Bred by Law Legacy Stables LLC; owned by Imaginary Stables & M3 Racing Stable; trained by Andrew L. Simoff. $100,000 **Eleven North H**, 6 fur., registered N.J.-bred F&M, 3&up, Monmouth, Aug. 29.

FUELED BY The Mill

AMATTEROFTIME, ch.g., 2015, Eskendereya—Victory Pool, by Victory Gallop. Bred by New Farm; owned & trained by Silvino Ramirez. $125,000 **Charles Hesse III H**, 1 1/16 mi., registered NJ-breds, 3&up, Monmouth, Aug. 29.

PICKIN' TIME, dk.b./br.c., 2018, Stay Thirsty—Born to Royalty, by King of Kings (Ire). Bred by John Bowers Jr.; owned by Roseland Farm Stable (Bowers); trained by Kelly J. Breen. $100,000 **New Jersey Breeders H**, 6 fur., registered NJ-breds, 3&up, Monmouth, Aug. 29.

HOROLOGIST, b.m., 2016, Gemologist—Cinderella Time, by Stephen Got Even. Bred by Holly Crest Farm; owned by There's A Chance Stable, Medallion Racing, Abbondanza Racing LLC, Parkland Thoroughbreds, Paradise Farms Corp. & David Staudacher; trained by William I. Mott. $100,000 **Top Flight Invitational S**, 1⅛ mi., F&M, 4&up, Aqueduct, April 10; $120,000 **Summer Colony S**, 1⅛ mi., F&M, 4&up who had not won a graded sweepstake in 2021, Saratoga, Aug. 22; 2nd **Shuvee S-G3**.

Pennsylvania-bred

ADMIRAL ABE, ch.g., 2016, Midshipman—Precious Penny, by Harlan's Holiday. Bred by White Diamond Inc. & Five Ring Stables; owned by Stefcon Racing; trained by Robert Mosco. $100,000 **Marshall Jenney H**, 5 fur. (off turf), registered PA-breds, 3&up, Parx, Aug. 23.

BEREN, b.c., 2018, Weigelia—Silmaril, by Diamond. Bred by Susan C. Quick & Christopher J. Feifarek; owned by St. Omer's Farm & Christopher J. Feifarek; trained by Robert E. Reid Jr. $100,000 **Gold Fever S**, 6 fur., 3YO, Belmont, May 9; $100,000 **Paradise Creek S**, 7 fur. (off turf), 3YO, Belmont, May 30; $100,000 **Crowd Pleaser S**, 1 1/16 mi. (off turf), registered PA-bred 3YO, Parx, June 22; $100,000 **Parx Summer Sprint S**, 6 fur., 3YO, Parx, Aug. 24.

CHUB WAGON, b.f., 2017, Hey Chub—Takin the Plunge, by Lion Heart. Bred by Joe-Dan Farm & George Chestnut; owned by Daniel J. Lopez & George Chestnut; trained by Guadalupe Preciado. $100,000 **Unique Bella S**, 7 fur., registered PA-bred F&M, 3&up, Parx, April 27; $100,000 **Skipat S**, 6 fur., F&M, 3&up, Pimlico, May 15; $100,000 **Shine Again S**, 6 fur., F&M, 3&up, Pimlico, June 13; $100,000 **Dashing Beauty S**, 6 fur., F&M, 3&up, Delaware, July 10; $100,000 **Roamin Rachel S**, 6½ fur., F&M, 3&up, Parx, Sept. 6; 2nd **Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial S**.

DON'T CALL ME MARY, ch.f., 2017, El Padrino—Monette, by Not For Love. Bred by Richard Simoff; owned by The Elkstone Group, LLC (Stuart Grant); trained by Todd A. Pletcher. $100,000 **Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial S**, 6 fur., registered PA-bred F&M, 3&up, Parx, Aug. 23.

EPIC LUCK, b.g., 2019, Madefromlucky—A Dicey Dame, by Colonel John. Bred by Lynn A. Ashby & William Gotwals; owned by Mark J. Ashby & William R. Gotwals; trained by Lynn A. Ashby. $100,000 **Kitten's Joy S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, 2YO, Colonial, Aug. 31.

STAKES WINNERS

FORTHELUVOFBOURBON, b.g., 2017, Bourbon Courage—Nosubstituteforluv, by Not For Love. Bred by Hidden Acres 4-D Farm; owned by Smart Angle LLP; trained by Michael V. Pino. $100,000 **Banjo Picker Sprint S**, 6 fur., registered PA-breds, 3&up, Parx, Aug. 23.

I AM REDEEMED, b.c., 2018, Redeemed—One Smart Philly, by Smarty Jones. Bred & owned by Dr. Lawrence Anthony Rebbecchi Jr.; trained by Penny Pearce. $100,000 **Storm Cat S**, 1 1/16 mi., registered PA-breds, 3&up, Parx, Aug. 23.

PRECIOUS, dk.b./br.f., 2017, Fed Biz—Brilliant Sunshine, by Smarty Jones. Bred & owned by Newell Thoroughbreds Ltd.; trained by John C. Servis. $100,000 **Mrs. Penny S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered PA-bred F&M, 3&up, Parx, Aug. 23; 2nd **Power by Far S**; 3rd **Alma North S**.

THE CRITICAL WAY, dk.b./br.g., 2014, Tizway—Critical Factor, by Star de Naskra. Bred by Blackstone Farm LLC; owned by Monster Racing Stables; trained by Jose H. Delgado. $75,000 **Turf Dash S**, 5 fur., turf, 4&up, Tampa Bay, Feb. 24; $100,000 **Wolf Hill S**, abt. 5½ fur., turf, 3&up, Monmouth, July 17; $200,000 **Parx Dash S-G3**, 5 fur., turf, 3&up, Parx, Aug. 31; 2nd **Jim McKay Turf Sprint S**; 3rd **Shakertown S-G2, Janus S**.

Virginia-bred

BOLDOR, b.g., 2016, Munnings—Senate Caucus, by Siphon (Brz). Bred by Carlos S.E. Moore & Gillian Gordon-Moore; owned by Ed Orr & Susie Orr; trained by Steven M. Asmussen. $60,000 **Sam's Town S**, 5 fur., 4&up, Delta Downs, Jan. 4; $150,000 **King Cotton S**, 6 fur., 4&up, Oaklawn, Feb. 6; $100,000 **Punch Line S**, 5½ fur., turf, registered VA-bred or sired, 3&up, Colonial, Sept. 1.

DETERMINED KINGDOM, b.g., 2019, Animal Kingdom—Filia, by Fastnet Rock. Bred by Audley Farm Equine LLC; owned by D Hatman Thoroughbreds & Kingdom Bloodstock Inc.; trained by Phil Schoenthal. $100,000 **Jamestown S**, 5½ fur., turf, registered VA-bred or sired 2YO, Colonial, Sept. 1.

FUELED BY The Mill

PASSION PLAY, b.g., 2016, Hold Me Back—Stylish Affair, by Not For Love. Bred by Mr. & Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III; owned by Reiley McDonald; trained by Mary E. Eppler. $100,000 **Bert Allen S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered VA-bred/sired or Va. certified, 3&up, Colonial, July 19; $100,000 **Edward P. Evans S**, 1 mi., turf, registered VA-bred or sired, 3&up, Colonial, Sept. 1.

URBAN FAIRYTALE, b.f., 2017, Distorted Humor—Fairytale Ending (Ire), by Galileo (Ire). Bred by Audley Farm Equine LLC; owned by Winchester Place Thoroughbreds LLC; trained by Ian R. Wilkes. $100,000 **Brookmeade S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered VA-bred or sired F&M, 3&up, Colonial, Sept. 1; 3rd **Lady Canterbury S, Nellie Mae Cox S**.

VIRGINIA BEACH, b.f., 2017, Twirling Candy—Enterprise Beach, by El Prado (Ire). Bred by Mr. & Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III; owned by Country Life Farm; trained by Michael J. Trombetta. $100,000 **Campstown S**, 5½ fur., turf, registered VA-bred or sired F&M, 3&up, Colonial, Sept. 1.

West Virginia-bred

DOOR BUSTER, b.f., 2018, Speightster—Miss Henny Penny, by Half Ours. Bred by Catherine K. Jennings & Scott Mallory; owned by Jay A. Reese; trained by Ollie L. Figgins III. $75,000 **Its Binn Too Long S**, 4½ fur., registered accredited WV-bred 3-year-old fillies, Charles Town, May 1; $75,000 **Sylvia Bishop Memorial S**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-bred 3-year-old fillies, Charles Town, Aug. 27; 3rd M. Tyson Gilpin S.

MUAD'DIB, gr./ro.g., 2017, Fiber Sonde—Holy Pow Wow, by Indian Charlie. Bred by John McKee; owned by David M. Raim; trained by Jeff C. Runco. $75,000 **Frank Gall Memorial S**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-breds, 3&up, Charles Town, Aug. 27.

SOCIAL CHIC, dk.b./br.g., 2018, Upstart—Tres Chic, by Harlan's Holiday. Bred by James Franklin Miller; owned by Smart Angle LLP; trained by Jeff C. Runco. $75,000 **Robert G. Leavitt S**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-bred 3YO, Charles Town, Aug. 27; 2nd **Coin Collector S**.

STAR OF NIGHT, gr./ro.f., 2017, Creative Cause—Splendiferous Moon, by Malibu Moon. Bred by Heinz J. Steinmann; owned by Huntertown Farm LLC; trained by Jeff C. Runco. $75,000 **Sadie Hawkins S**, 7 fur., registered accredited WV-bred F&M, 3&up, Charles Town, Aug. 27.

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Her Royal Highness

The Mean Queen denies Snap Decision in Grade 1 Lonesome Glory at Belmont

BY JOE CLANCY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOD MARKS

Any race's best-case scenario, from purely a racing fan's standpoint, involves watching the two best horses in a race turn for home and square up for battle—win, lose, draw, may the best horse win.

That's what The Mean Queen (Ire) and Snap Decision delivered in the $150,000 Lonesome Glory Handicap-G1 at Belmont Park Sept. 16 with the former—a 5-year-old mare in her first season of jump racing—ending the nine-race winning streak of the latter by 2 lengths to set the stage for a second showdown in the $150,000 American Grand National at New Jersey's Far Hills Races Oct. 16.

Owned by Pennsylvanians Rod and Alice Moorhead's Buttonwood Farm, The Mean Queen came in off a win in the Jonathan Sheppard-G1 at Saratoga Aug. 18 with the only loss in six starts over jumps (one in Ireland, the rest in the United States) a lost rider while in total command of the Jonathan Kiser Memorial at Saratoga July 28.

Racing for Maryland's Bruton Street-US, Snap Decision hadn't run since a record-tying ninth consecutive hurdle win in the Iroquois Steeplehcase-G1 June 26. The 7-year-old carried high weight of 164 pounds, seven more than The Mean Queen and 20 more than some five rivals in the 2½-mile race.

The favorites (4-5 Snap Decision and 7-5 The Mean Queen) bided their time early as Bodes Well (Ire) did his best to pull an upset – breaking fast, slowing the pace, kicking clear, backing it up again and finally trying to stretch everyone from the backside. Jockey Tom Garner's tactics added

The Mean Queen (left) throws in a big leap alongside Amschel early in the Lonesome Glory Handicap at Belmont Park.

Owners Rod and Alice Moorhead flank winning trainer Keri Brion and jockey Richie Condon after the September stakes victory by their star mare.

The Mean Queen (right) hands Snap Decision his first defeat in more than two years.

some drama, but they were no match as the titans geared up around the final turn.

Bodes Well led by 9 lengths leaving the backstretch the final time, but The Mean Queen and Snap Decision halved it midway on the turn. Aboard Snap Decision, Graham Watters did his best to get first run on Richie Condon and The Mean Queen but the mare fought back to establish a position as they rolled around Bodes Well.

Snap Decision drew even at the top of the stretch and looked poised to add a 10th win to his streak, until he didn't. The Mean Queen fought back. Snap Decision dug in. She found a little more. He kept trying, but couldn't match that last move and settled for second–his first loss since May 2019. They were 9¼ lengths clear of Redicean (GB) in third. The Mean Queen collected $90,000, won her second Grade 1 of the season and put herself into at least the front seat (if not the driver's) for the 2021 steeplechase Eclipse Award.

"I didn't know she could do that against him," said Keri Brion. "I thought she was really good, but he's so good, he's really good. I could have seen it going the other way. I could have seen him come around the bend and open up 5 lengths on her. For a minute, she had to realize she had to try harder, and they were going to go. You could almost see it, where he gets there and you're not sure and maybe she wasn't sure either. Then she has to go on and try harder."

"I thought he ran great," said Jack Fisher, who trains Snap Decision and called his horse 80-percent fit going into the race. "He ran out of steam halfway up the stretch. It wasn't the goal. I've gotten away with it with Good Night Shirt and some other horses there, but they didn't have a The Mean Queen to run against. He ran into a really good horse. She was right as rain, and I probably didn't have him right as rain. The goal is Far Hills. We'll play again at Far Hills."

The Grand National, at 2⅝ miles, will have its say. All being right, both horses will be there. Brion said so a day after the Belmont race. Fisher agreed. Bring it on. The feature on a $400,000 day at the 100th Far Hills Races will have work to do to match the Lonesome Glory.

RISING STAR MARE

Bred by Kevin Purfield, The Mean Queen went to the Tattersalls Ireland national hunt sale as 3-year-old in August 2019.

Unraced and unbroken, the chestnut was bred for jump racing in England and Ireland as the daughter of Doyen (Ire) and the Kris Kin mare Gail Borden (Ire). The dam did not race, but is a sister to hurdle and chase winner Square Mile (Ire) and hurdle winner Robert (Ire). In a concept foreign to American racing, Irish trainer James Doyle bought her as a prospect for his Baltimore Stable–his great-grandfather lived and worked in the Maryland city before returning to Ireland–in Ireland's County Wexford. Doyle specializes in buying young horses, breaking and training them to the point of running in a 3-mile Irish point-to-point race and then selling them privately or at auction.

"It's a family-run business with my sister [Ellen]," said Doyle. "We've been doing it five or six years, and it's chasers in the making, an academy. We're always bringing horses along, they run in point-to-points as 4- and 5-year-olds and then all of them are offered for sale."

Brion met Doyle on a trip to Ireland in 2019, rode out in the mornings, asked plenty of questions and started thinking of Doyle as a potential source for American

Ritzy A. P. glides to the finish in total command of the William Entenmann at Belmont.

steeplechasers. Imports aren't new, they've actually become a primary source of U.S. jumpers over the last 10 years, but tackling it from the prospect side was different thinking. A typical U.S. import has already raced over jumps in England or Ireland.

"She had the thought of starting where they're fresh the way our trainers do with horses," said Doyle. "In fairness to Keri, the amount of analyzation she does is impressive. I'll have my opinion, she'll have her opinion. I don't force anyone to buy horses. We look at each horse. Will they handle American racing? Will they be able to do it? We've formed a business model and try and get each horse sold right and where it needs to go."

While still an assistant for the now retired Jonathan Sheppard, Brion and Doyle sourced A Silent Player (Ire), French Light (Fr), Baltimore Bucko (GB) and Zoom Zoom Zoe (Ire) for U.S. owners. Each horse won two races in 2020. Last fall, Doyle reached out to Brion about The Mean Queen. Then a 4-year-old, she was on the verge of a point-to-point start and if she ran as well as Doyle thought she would, was soon going to be in demand with top Irish and English trainers. Brion talked to Rod Moorhead.

"He had spent a lot of money on horses, and at that stage they weren't running," Brion said. "We had a business plan, and Rod's great, but you can't keep spending money. He said yes. We bought her. She stayed over there and won her point-to-point [at Loughanmore in October 2020] in their colors."

She backed up that performance by finishing second in a 2-mile flat race (later moved up first on a medication positive for the winner) at Fairyhouse in November and was rested for a 2021 campaign. Brion met the mare again in Ireland over the winter and, after a second on the flat at Down Royal, made history as the first American trainer to win a jump race in Ireland when The Mean Queen scored in a mares' maiden at Wexford April 9. The Mean Queen won her American debut, a first-level allowance hurdle against males, in late May, added the Margaret Henley Stakes against overmatched fillies/mares in late June, blasted everybody in the Jonathan Kiser novice stakes at Saratoga only to duck out and lose her jockey in the final yards and then added the back-to-back Grade 1 scores.

Over jumps, not counting the point-to-point, she's won five of six and should be undefeated while piling up $232,748 in earnings (all but about $10,000 of it this year) and sits on the verge of becoming the first filly or mare to win an American steeplechase championship since Life's Illusion in 1975.

And, of course, there's some attitude behind the mare. She comes by her name, given by Doyle, honestly and Brion tries to work around that strong personality. Ten days before the Belmont race, she wouldn't let Condon in the stall.

"Every time he went to go in, she was spinning around with her ears pinned and coming at him with her teeth bared," said the trainer, based at Fair Hill Training Center. "I'm like 'OK, we'll ride her next set.' But that's her. She gets mean and angry, well not angry. She's happy, it's just her. It makes her what she is.

"She has so much want, she wants to win, she wants to do it. It's very rare you get one like that with the ability too—and she has the ability too."

AT THE RITZ

Before The Mean Queen made a case for Irish imports in the Lonesome Glory, America's Ritzy A. P. demolished six others (five bred in Europe) in the $75,000 William Entenmann Memorial novice stakes for owner Leslie Kopp and trainer Neil Morris to start the Belmont card.

Bred in Kentucky by Calumet Farm, the winner rated behind early leader Booby Trap before accelerating to the front with a furlong to go and drawing off by 7¼ lengths for Watters. Another yank, Booby Trap, stayed for second with French Light (Fr) third. Buttonwood and Brion felt some pain before the joy of their Grade 1 victory as Baltimore Bucko (GB) was fatally injured when he fell at the third fence and brought down Perfect Tapatino (Fr). The latter was not injured, nor were jockeys Condon and Barry Foley.

Ritzy A. P. continued a well-traveled career that took him to Santa Anita, Del Mar, Santa Rosa, Golden Gate Fields, Churchill Downs, Ellis Park, Kentucky Downs, Keeneland and Turfway Park on the flat (three wins including a stakes, two Grade 2 placings and $323,771) before converting to jumps. Second in his debut at Great Meadow in May, he dominated maidens at Colonial Downs in July and was fourth in allowance company at Saratoga in August. Scratched from a September start at Saratoga due to a paperwork issue with the New York Gaming Commission, the 7-year-old horse (not a gelding) delivered at Belmont. Morris, based in Middleburg, Va., called the Saratoga start a learning experience.

"He was too keen, too keen and green and thought he'd conquered the world

after Colonial," said Morris. "We did a little more ground work with him at home and got him prepared for the next race."

Morris made the purchase for Kopp and Bryce Lingo, who foxhunt in Virginia and are realtors at the Delaware beaches, after looking at Ritzy A. P. last year.

"I know [Calumet trainer] Jack Sisterson, have a little rapport with him and he threw this horse out to me," Morris said. "They did not want to run him in claiming races on the flat, they're custodians of the horse and we cut a deal that he would never run on the flat except a flat race for the jumpers. I thought he was great. I liked the package. He's shown some promise and we can have some fun with him."

NOTES: September 1 Saratoga allowance winner Booby Trap showcased another example of a flat horse finding a second career as the son of Hard Spun was claimed for $4,500 at Charles Town last September before moving to trainer Leslie Young and owners Thomas Rice and Van Cushny. Over jumps, the 5-year-old has won two of four and placed in a stakes while earning $70,500. "He's the poster child for what to do with a horse," said Cushny. "There are horses like him out there who can do this and are going to be better at this than the flat." . . . The fall season started at Shawan Downs Sept. 25 and was going to be busy in October and November with nine stops including the season finale at Charleston, S.C. Nov. 14 . . . Through Sept. 24, Brion (nine wins) led Fisher, Young and Morris (eight each) in the trainers' standings while Watters (13) was one better than Garner among the jockeys. Buttonwood's $364,850 led the owners, followed by Irv Naylor ($251,650 on the strength of eight wins) and Bruton Street ($173,200). ■

Former leading owner Lickle dies at 92

William Cauffiel Lickle, three times the National Steeplechase Association's leading owner in the 1990s and owner of such standout horses as champion Correggio (Ire), Maryland Hunt Cup winner Young Dubliner (Ire) and major stakes winner Victorian Hill, died Aug. 19 at home in Delaware. The retired financial executive was 92.

Born in 1929 in Wilmington, Del., Lickle graduated Tower Hill School where he met his future wife Renee Carpenter Kitchell. They were married in 1950, and she survives him along with children Sydney Jordan, Garrison Lickle, Ashley O'Neil and Kemble O'Donnell, plus 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Lickle earned a bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Virginia. He was admitted to the Virginia Bar Association in 1953 and the U.S. Supreme Court Bar in 2012. He worked for several financial firms including Laird Bissell and Meeds, Dean Witter and Co., Delaware Trust Co., J.P. Morgan International Hold-

ings. He served on President Ronald Reagan's President's Export Council in 1988.

After his retirement in 1993, he devoted his love of books and history to create Lickle Publishing Inc., which produced coffee table books and children's books. Lickle Publishing was sold to Charlesbridge Publishing in 2006.

As a steeplechase owner from 1974 through 2006, Lickle was the second leading owner for money won in American steeplechase history with $3,226,421 and still ranks fifth all-time. His first runners were trained by Jonathan Sheppard, but the stable grew in quality and quantity when connected with former Sheppard assistant Janet Elliot in the 1980s.

Victorian Hill won 15 jump races and earned $748,370, for a time the most in history, in a career highlighted by major wins in the 1990 Colonial Cup, 1991 and 1992 Iroquois Steeplechases and 1991 Dueling Grounds International Hurdle. Irish import Correggio won the Eclipse Award as champion steeplechaser in 1996. Another Irish-bred, Young Dubliner, won the Maryland Hunt Cup for trainer Kathy Neilson in 2002–setting a course record that stood until this year. Other steeplechase standouts included Master McGrath, Hudson Bay, Mario (Ire), Green Highlander and Trebizond (Ire). On the flat, Lickle co-owned and -bred Grade 2 winner Sintra among others.

Additional involvement in racing included board positions with the Breeders' Cup, Winterthur Point-to-Point Races, Fair Hill Races, Steeplechase Owners and Trainers Association, Delaware Racing Association, Coaching Club of America, National Steeplechase Museum and National Steeplechase Association. ■

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Top Mid-Atlantic sires of 2021

Based on 2021 earnings through Sept. 19

(D-deceased; R-retired)

General earnings

Sire	*rnrs*	*wnrs*	*earnings*
Wicked Strong (Pa)	164	72	$2,947,429
Jump Start (Pa-D)	122	50	2,593,278
Great Notion (Md)	90	43	2,219,388
Warrior's Reward (Pa)	122	58	2,013,149
Golden Lad (Md)	64	37	1,891,829
Fiber Sonde (WV)	83	45	1,861,393
El Padrino (Pa-D)	71	30	1,805,118
Poseidon's Warrior (Pa)	75	32	1,749,992
Windsor Castle (WV-D)	78	46	1,634,939
Bandbox (Md-D)	56	29	1,617,394

Rainbow Heir strikes his with first winner

Displaying speed reminiscent of his sire Rainbow Heir, Nerve shot to the front in a 5-furlong Gulfstream Park maiden special weight on the turf Aug. 29, set fractions of :21.81 and :44.70, and dug in to win by a neck in :56.65.

A $130,000 juvenile purchase by Karl and Cathi Glassman at the OBS April sale, Nerve is trained by Ed Plesa and defeated 10 others in his second start. Bred in Florida by Ocala Stud, he is the last foal out of multiple stakes producer Ennuhway (Notebook), and the first winner from the first crop of Rainbow Heir, who stands at Shamrock Farm in Woodbine, Md.

One of the best sprinters in the region over the last decade while racing from 3 to 8 on on turf and dirt, and the New Jersey-bred Horse of the Year of 2014, Rainbow Heir was retired to Ocala Stud in 2018, covered 30 mares, and went back into training with an eye on the Breeders' Cup. The nine-time stakes winner added a graded stakes-placing that fall when third in the $300,000 Turf Monster-G3 at Parx. In his stakes debut more than five years earlier, he captured Monmouth's Grade 3 Jersey Shore Stakes on the main track. In between those efforts came three stakes wins at 6 furlongs, two in 1:09 and change, and a 1:08.60 in the Aqueduct Turf Sprint Championship. He zipped 5 furlongs on the turf in :55.47 when taking the $175,000 Gulfstream Park Turf Sprint in January 2018. When he retired for the second time, he had earnings of $837,395 from 33 career starts, with 14 wins, four seconds and four thirds.

Rainbow Heir is a son of owner/breeder New Farm's Grade 1-winning homebred Wildcat Heir, the leading sire in Florida seven times. Rainbow Heir's stakes-placed dam Rainbow Pride (by Prospectors Gamble) is the dam of six other winners from as many starters, including stakes-placed juvenile Follow the Rainbow, $285,580 earner Wild Rainbow, undefeated stakes producer Colorful Delight, and Nite Rainbow, dam of $250,178 earner and four-time stakes performer Opera Nite.

Rainbow Heir moved from Florida to stand his fourth breeding season at Shamrock Farm in 2021 for a fee of $2,000 live foal.

FIRST STAKES WINNERS

Madefromlucky

Epic Luck, the first winner from the first crop of Madefromlucky, upped his game in his second start and became his sire's first stakes winner.

COADY PHOTOGRAPHY

The bay Pennsylvania-bred 2-year-old gelding trained by Lynn Ashby, who also co-bred him, traveled to Colonial Downs and won the $100,000 Woodford Reserve Kitten's Joy Stakes Aug. 31. Owned by William Gotwals and Mark Ashby, Epic Luck pushed his earnings to $76,500 in two starts.

Northview Stallion Station's syndicated Madefromlucky has 36 foals in his first crop. The 9-year-old is a son of champion and champion sire Lookin At Lucky out of the Pulpit mare Home From Oz, a full-sister to three-time leading sire Tapit. Madefromlucky earned $1,351,500 with six wins in 24 starts. He won four stakes, including the West Virginia Derby-G2, Peter Pan-G2 and Greenwood Cup-G3.

Madefromlucky stood the 2021 season in Chesapeake City, Md. for $5,000 live foal, payable when the foal stands and nurses

Il Postino

Law Legacy Stables' stallion Il Postino, who made his stud career in New Jersey, got his first stakes winner when Alta Velocita rallied to win the $100,000 Eleven North Handicap by a nose at Monmouth Park Aug. 29.

Bred by Law Legacy, Alta Velocita races for Imaginary Stables and M3 Racing Stables, after being claimed from her breeder in Florida in her first start of the year. Trained by Andrew Simoff, the 5-year-old mare was making her stakes debut in the 6-furlong Eleven North and has won four of seven 2021 starts. She boosted her earnings to $249,378 from 15 starts.

EQUI-PHOTO, INC.

Il Postino, a son of Distorted Humor and the Black Tie Affair (Ire) mare Awful Smart, raced for Law Legacy after being acquired during his 3-year-old season.

The 15-year-old gray/roan would go on to win or place in eight of 22 starts, earning $132,924. He is a half-brother to graded winner Awfully Smart, an earner of $494,305, and $404,108-earner and course record setter Tastefully Smart.

Awful Smart, placed in the Grade 1 Test and Gazelle and earned $191,380. Five of her eight winners have also earned six figures. The family includes Canadian champion Academic and Group 1 winners Outback Prince and Hotel Grand.

After standing at Birch Creek Farm and Colonial Farms, Il Postino was moved to Greenfields for the 2021 season where he stood for $1,000, with no fee for mares foaling in New Jersey. Of his 19 foals, 14 have started and 10 are winners, with average earnings per starter of $112,123.

Bonita Farm stallion Kobe's Back gets first winner at Woodbine

Kobe's Back was represented by his first winner when Heat Merchant got up to win by three-quarters of a length in a 6-furlong maiden special weight over Woodbine's all-weather surface Aug. 15.

Heat Merchant just missed by a nose in his previous start July 18. The win increased his earnings to $47,669 in three starts. Bred by CRK Stable, he races for Mary Ellen Biamonte, who purchased the gray/roan gelding for $4,500 at the Keeneland September yearling sale, and is trained by Ralph Biamonte.

Kobe's Back drew attention as a freshman sire this year when his son Paper Mirror sold for $375,000 at the OBS April 2-year-old sale. The stallion has 17 foals in his first crop.

A multiple graded stakes-winning sprinter of $1,116,595, Kobe's Back never raced in anything but stakes in 26 starts over five years. Based in California for Lee and Susan Searing's CRK Stable, the gray broke his maiden first time out at 2 in the Willard Proctor Memorial at Hollywood Park, against a field that included California Chrome. Kobe's Back won Santa Anita's San Vicente-G3 at 3, Keeneland's Commonwealth-G3 at 4, and recorded his best season at 5 with back-to-back scores in the Palos Verdes and San Carlos, both Grade 2 at Santa Anita.

The son of Flatter and the Well Decorated mare Well is a half-brother to graded stakes-winning sprinter and stakes sire Well Spelled from the family of graded stakes winner and sire Notation.

The 10-year-old stands at Bonita Farm in Darlington, Md. for $3,000 live foal.

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Hall of Fame adds Conniver, Devil's Bag, J. O. Tobin

For the first time since the inaugural year in 2013, more than two horses were inducted into a class of the Maryland-bred Thoroughbred Hall of Fame. Selected this year are national champions Conniver, Devil's Bag and J. O. Tobin, voted in by a committee of Maryland racing industry members coordinated by the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and Maryland Racing Media Association.

"With this newest class of Hall of Fame inductees, the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and the Maryland Racing Media Association are proud to recognize Maryland-bred horses that have been successful in the sales ring and racing on the national and international stage," said Cricket Goodall, executive director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association.

"These three newest members of the Maryland Thoroughbred Hall of Fame demonstrate the depth of the state's breeding program over the years," said Maryland Racing Media Association president Frank Vespe. "All were top-class runners who were not just Maryland champions but also national champions while defeating the best in their divisions."

Conniver towered above her competition in 1948 when named the nation's champion handicap mare.

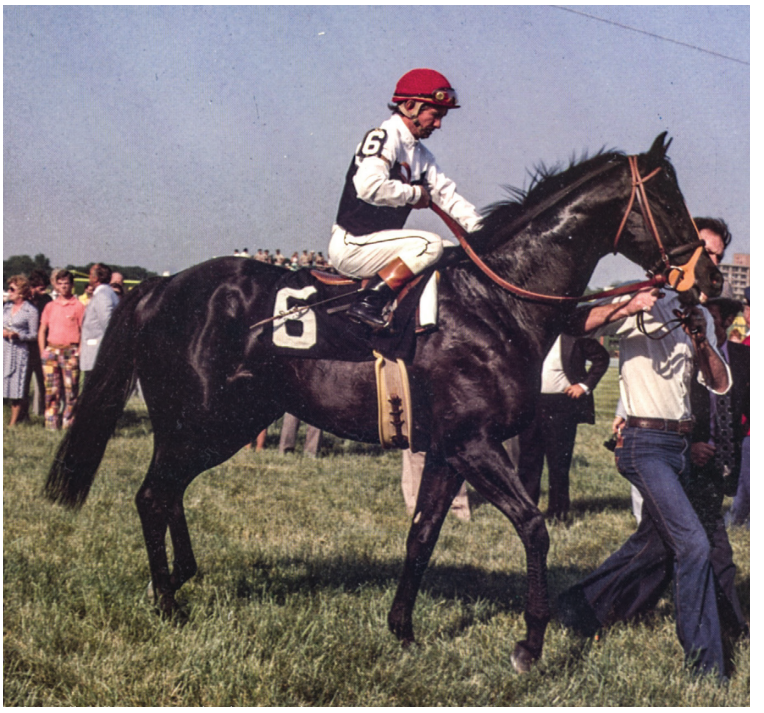
Conniver, the champion handicap mare of 1948 while racing against the likes of national Hall of Famers Gallorette and Stymie, was a late-bloomer. A gawky 17 hands, the brown filly was undistinguished at 2 and 3 and nearly sold as a polo pony by her owner Harry La Montagne prior to her 4-year-old season in 1948. She was offered to famed steeplechase trainer and polo player Pete Bostwick, who considered her too big. "Cut her in half and make two ponies of her," he suggested.

Trained by William Post, the daughter of Sagamore Farm stallion Discovery quickly rose through the handicap ranks in 1948 and went on to capture the Brooklyn (defeating Gallorette and Stymie), Beldame (Gallorette was third), Comely and Vagrancy handicaps.

Conniver was out of the William L. Brann-bred stakes-winning *Challenger II mare The Schemer, whom Alfred Vanderbilt purchased after her racing career. Conniver was The Schemer's fourth foal and a member of the crop of yearlings sold in 1945 while Vanderbilt was on active duty in the South Pacific during World War II. Montagne paid $2,500. During yearling inspections at Sagamore that summer, noted bloodstock

Skip Ball Collection/Maryland Horse Library (2)

The racing world ran out of superlatives for Devil's Bag as he cruised through his 2-year-old season in 1983.



J. O. Tobin could do it all: an Eclipse Award for sprinting, Grade 1 wins up to 1¼ miles, course records, wins on turf and dirt, and he defeated Seattle Slew.

authority Humphrey Finney made the following comments about the filly born April 26: "A tremendously large, plain filly, but quick as a cat for a big 'un. Has tons of bone and substance."

Conniver passed on her "quick as a cat" ability as her descendants have proven fast and precocious, including Canadian champion 2-year-old filly Deceit Dancer and Breeders' Cup Sprint-G1 winner Very Subtle.

Devil's Bag, the nation's champion 2-year-old in 1983, was unbeatable that season, never extended while winning all five starts, including the Grade 1 Champagne Stakes and Laurel Futurity. He earned Maryland-bred Horse of the Year honors over the likes of that year's Preakness winner Deputed Testamony, Belmont Stakes winner Caveat, Irish Derby winner Shareef Dancer, Eclipse Award-winning 3-year-old filly Heartlight No. One and English and Irish champion 2-year-old El Gran Senor.

The son of Halo was purchased as a yearling for $325,000 by Alice and James P. Mills' Hickory Tree Stable at the Keeneland July sale from the Windfields Farm consignment of breeder E.P. Taylor, two years after his full-sister Glorious Song was named Canadian Horse of the Year. Trained by Woody Stephens, Devil's Bag was considered by many the next coming of Secretariat and went into his 3-year-old season the winter-book favorite for the Kentucky Derby.

He dominated his first start at 3, winning the Flamingo Prep by 7 lengths at Hialeah, then shocked the racing world two weeks later when fourth in the Flamingo-G1. He was sent out twice more and won both, with the Derby Trial at Churchill Downs the week before the Kentucky Derby his final prep. However, the performance was considered subpar, so he skipped the Derby in favor of the Preakness, but never started again when a bone chip was found in his right knee. Syndicated the previous December for $1 million per share (a total value of $36 million) he was retired to stud at Claiborne Farm in Kentucky.

Devil's Bag became a top-class stallion, siring the likes of Devil His Due and 45 other stakes winners, as well as being the broodmare sire of more than 80 stakes winners. He died at Claiborne in February 2005 at age 24 and is buried on the farm.

J. O. Tobin, a champion in England and the U.S., was bred and raced by Californian George A. Pope Jr., but was born in Maryland when his dam Hill Shade (by Hillary) was shipped to Windfields Farm to be bred to Northern Dancer in 1974.

A versatile runner, J. O. Tobin set a course record at 3, won Grade 1 races up to 1¼ miles, won on turf and dirt, captured graded sprints on both coasts, and earned an Eclipse Award in 1978 as champion sprinter.

The son of champion Never Bend was undefeated in three starts in England as a juvenile, with easy scores in the Group 2 Richmond and Champagne Stakes, and in his only start in France was third in the Grand Criterium-G1 at Longchamp.

After his trainer Sir Noel Murless retired that year, J. O. Tobin was shipped to California and placed under the care of John Adams to prepare for the U.S. classics. In his second North American start he won Hollywood Park's Coronado Handicap at a mile on the turf in April. He next appeared in the Preakness Stakes where, after breaking in the air and running well off the pace, he finished fifth, nearly 6 lengths behind Seattle Slew.

J. O. Tobin made headlines the next time he faced the Triple Crown winner by handing Seattle Slew his first defeat in the Grade 1 Swaps Stakes-G1 at Hollywood, leading gate-to-wire and galloping home 8 lengths on top in 1:58 3⁄5, just two-fifths of a second off the track and world record.

J. O. Tobin's 4-year-old campaign was his best. Turned over to Hall of Fame trainer Laz Barrera, he started 11 times his Eclipse Award-winning season, at least once a month from January until September. In four starts in seven weeks, he captured the San Bernardino-G2 on the turf, the Premiere Handicap on the main track, the 7-furlong Los Angeles-G2 in 1:21.40 while carrying 130 pounds, and the Grade 1 Californian.

After shipping east, he dominated Belmont's Tom Fool Handicap by 6½ lengths, getting 7 furlongs in 1:20.80 while toting 129 pounds.

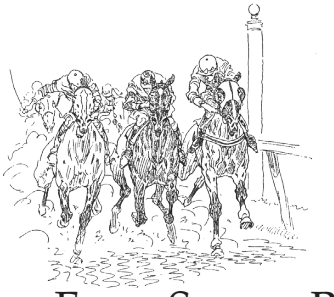
He was a Maryland-bred divisional champion at 2, 3 and 4, as well as turf cham-

pion and Horse of the Year in 1978. J. O. Tobin retired to Spendthrift Farm with a record of 21-12-2-2 and earnings of $668,159, went on to sire 24 stakes winners, and is the broodmare sire of champion sprinter Cardmania.

This year's Hall of Fame class was celebrated in the winner's circle at Timonium Aug. 29.

Under the collaboration of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and Maryland Racing Media Association, the Hall of Fame was initiated in 2013 to celebrate state-bred Thoroughbred horses and debuted with an inaugural class of 12. There are now 29 members. Conniver, Devil's Bag and J. O. Tobin join Awad, Broad Brush, Caesar's Wish, Challedon, Cigar, Concern, Dave's Friend, Deputed Testamony, El Gran Senor, Find, Gallorette, Heavenly Cause, Jameela, Kauai King, Little Bold John, Politely, Safely Kept, Social Outcast, Twixt, Vertex, What a Summer and Youth and steeplechasers Elkridge, Good Night Shirt, Jay Trump and Tuscalee.

The newest honorees, with biographies, photos, videos and complete race records, are showcased on-line at mdthoroughbredhalloffame.com. ❧



Maryland Fund Stakes Recaps

Jim McCue

Jaxon Traveler

Star de Naskra Stakes
$75,000-guaranteed, 6 fur., registered Maryland-bred or sired, 3-year-olds. Pimlico, Aug. 21.

Dk.b./br.c., 2018, by Munnings—Listen Boy, by After Market. Bred by Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau; owned by West Point Thoroughbreds and Marvin Delfiner; trained by Steven M. Asmussen. Foaled at Three Pines Farm, Reisterstown, Md.

Lifetime				
starts	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*earnings*
9	5 (3)	3 (3)	1 (1)	$390,210 (through Aug. 21)

2020: 1st $100,000 **Maryland Juvenile Futurity**, 7 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired 2-year-olds, Laurel, Dec. 5. **2021**: 1st $200,000 **Bachelor S**, 6 fur., 3-year-olds, Oaklawn, April 24; $75,000 **Star de Naskra S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired 3-year-olds, Pimlico, Aug. 21; 2nd **Chick Lang S-G3**, **Woodstock S**, **Gazebo S**; 3rd **Quick Call S-G3**.

Jaxon Traveler is living up to his name. Since three dominant wins in his home state in an undefeated 2-year-old season last year, he has criss-crossed the continent. Starting in Arkansas, he has since been in Maryland, Canada and New York, racing exclusively in stakes and has never been worse than third. The track he has visited most is Pimlico, and he recorded his first stakes win at the track Aug. 21 in the $75,000 Star de Naskra, named for the 1979 Maryland-bred Eclipse Award-winning sprinter.

The race for 3-year-olds had only three starters after two scratches, but they were a quality threesome. Favoritism fell to Jaxon Traveler, who went off at 1-2. After rating off a solid pace set by Cry No More, Jaxon Traveler made his move around the turn through a half in :44.94 and battled the early leader before sprinting clear to hit the wire 3 lengths in front of late-running Alwaysinahurry, who finished a head in front of Cry No More. Final time for 6 furlongs was 1:10.21.

Notching his third stakes win, and second in Maryland, Jaxon Traveler has never been worse than third in nine starts, winning five, for earnings of $390,210.

"He's getting bigger and stronger, so we're in good shape with him," said Terry Finley, founder and CEO of West Point Thoroughbreds which owns the Munnings colt with Marvin Delfiner. "They can only go so far if they're going this fast and as far as they can. They have to learn how to relax, so it worked out well."

West Point purchased Jaxon Traveler for $140,000 at the OBS Spring 2-year-old sale and turned him over to Steve Asmussen, who shipped the colt to Pimlico late last September for his debut, a 10-length score. Just as easy was his next start, a Laurel allowance, which set him up for his stakes debut in the Maryland Juvenile Futurity. The win secured the Maryland-bred championship title.

This year he has a win in Oaklawn Park's Bachelor Stakes, three seconds, including the Grade 3 Chick Lang at Pimlico on Preakness Day, and has run on all-weather at Woodbine and turf at Saratoga, finishing third in the latter (the Quick Call Stakes-G3).

Jaxon Traveler was bred by MHBA board member A. Leonard Pineau and his wife Patricia, both longime veterinarians who have been breeding horses at their Three Pines Farm in Baltimore County since the 1970s. The couple purchased the colt's dam, stakes-placed Listen Boy (by After Market), for $26,000 at the 2015 Keeneland November sale while carrying her second foal, to the cover of Street Boss.

The mare's first three foals bred by the Pineaus were sold as yearlings at Keeneland September–$92,000 for the resulting Street Boss colt, My Legacy, who sold the next spring for $260,000 at OBS; $10,000 for her filly by Twirling Candy named My Candy Girl; and $80,000 for Jaxon Traveler. All are winners, as well as the mare's first foal, Nuclear Option (by First Defence), and combined they have earnings of more than $830,000.

Listen Boy returned to Street Boss in 2018 and has a 2-year-old filly named Sullivan Street. The mare's first foal not sent throught the sales ring, Sullivan Street is being campaigned by the Pineaus and trainer Mary Eppler and made her first start at Laurel Park in September.

Listen Boy has a weanling colt by Cross Traffic and was bred to Liam's Map.

Kiss the Girl

All Brandy Stakes
$75,000-guaranteed, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered Maryland-bred or sired fillies and mares, 3 & up. Pimlico, Aug. 21.

B.f., 2017, by Into Mischief—Spin the Bottle, by Hard Spun. Bred by Classic Thoroughbred XII; owned by Three Diamonds Farm; trained by Michael

Jim McCue (2)

J. Trombetta. Foaled at Country Life Farm, Bel Air, Md.

		Lifetime			
starts	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*earnings*
16	5 (2)	3 (2)	2	$279,766

(through Aug. 21)

2019: 2nd **Schuylerville S-G3**. **2021:** 1st $75,000 **Conniver S**, 7 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired fillies and mares, 4 & up, Laurel, March 13; $75,000 **All Brandy S**, 1 1/16 mi., turf, registered Md.-bred or sired fillies and mares, 3 & up, Pimlico, Aug. 21; 2nd **Geisha S**.

Trainer Mike Trombetta took a hard look at the $75,000 All Brandy Stakes, one of four stakes on Maryland Pride Day at Pimlico Aug. 21, as it was an opportunity to try Three Diamonds Farm's Kiss the Girl on the grass one more time.

"The owner tried her on the grass before we received her to train and he just wasn't satisfied that she really had her best opportunity, so he wanted us to revisit it," said Trombetta. "It took a couple of starts for her to fall into place, but he was certainly convinced that she could do it and it appears he was right."

Kiss the Girl reeled in apparent winner Awesome Jazz in deep stretch to score by a neck in the 1 1/16-mile All Brandy over yielding turf.

It was Kiss the Girl's third consecutive start on the turf–she was fourth in Delaware Park's Peach Blossom Stakes behind Maryland-bred Rising Bella July 7, and two weeks later was second in a Pimlico allowance.

Debra and Kirk Wycoff of Three Diamonds Farm paid $210,000 for the Into Mischief filly at the 2018 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale and sent her to Todd Pletcher, who had her ready for her 2-year-old debut in June at Belmont Park, which she won easily by 4½ lengths going 5 furlongs. In her only other start of the year, she just missed in the Grade 3 Schuylerville at Saratoga, finishing second by a neck.

She reappeared in January in the barn of Steve Asmussen and ran four times at Oaklawn Park, the most successful an allowance win in February, before being shipped to Delaware for the Christiana Stakes July 4, her first start on the turf. She finished last of eight. Switched to the Trombetta barn, Kiss the Girl has made nine starts since, winning three including the Conniver Stakes at Laurel in March at 7 furlongs, and has been third or better six times.

Bred by Classic Thoroughbred XII, the filly is the first foal for her dam Spin the Bottle, a daughter of Hard Spun who also has a Maryland-bred yearling filly by Malibu Moon and foaled a filly by Classic Empire in Kentucky in February. She was bred back to Improbable for 2022.

Malibu Beauty

Miss Disco Stakes

$75,000-guaranteed, 6 fur., registered Maryland-bred or sired 3-year-old fillies. Pimlico, Aug. 21.

B.f., 2018, by Buffum—Slow and Steady, by Malibu Moon. Bred and owned by ZWP Stable Inc. and Non Stop Stable; trained by Gary A. Capuano. Foaled at Summer Wind Farm, Libertytown, Md.

		Lifetime			
starts	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*earnings*
14	5 (1)	2 (1)	3	$207,134

(through Aug. 21)

2021: 1st $75,000 **Miss Disco S**, 6 fur., registered Md.-bred or sired 3-year-old fillies, Pimlico, Aug. 21; 2nd **Stormy Blues S**.

Slow and Steady has been a goldmine. ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable's 20-year-old Malibu Moon mare is now the dam of three stakes winners after Malibu Beauty led gate to wire in the $75,000 Miss Disco for 3-year-old fillies to kick off the stakes action Aug. 21 at Pimlico.

The youngest foal of racing age for Slow and Steady, Malibu Beauty is one of six stakes performers, and ninth winner from as many starters. Others include Maryland-bred juvenile champion Steady Warrior (Cherokee's Boy), stakes winner Steady N Love (Not For Love), and stakes-placed Lucky in Malibu (Lookin At Lucky), Hanky Doodle (Cherokee's Boy) and Who Dat Boy (Cherokee's Boy).

Malibu Beauty has placed in 10 of 14 starts, and only once in her career has she been worse than fourth. The Miss Disco was her fourth win from nine starts this season. "She's a real nice filly, been getting better each time. She's just cool," said trainer and co-breeder/co-owner Gary Capuano. "She got beat in a couple of tough races, but other than that she's been really good."

Twice before, the daughter of Buffum tried stakes company. She was fourth last fall in the Anne Arundel County at Laurel, and second to Street Lute in the Stormy Blues at Pimlico in June.

When Street Lute was scratched from the Miss Disco, Malibu Beauty went off the 2-5 favorite in the field of four. Surging to the front, she opened up in the stretch and was never threatened, winning by 4½ lengths in 1:11.48 for 6 furlongs.

Capuano bought Slow and Steady just before she turned 2 at the 2002 Midlantic December mixed sale, paying $14,500. A member of her sire's first crop, she is a daughter of Maryland-bred stakes winner Salubria; her second dam was Black-Eyed Susan Stakes-G2 winner Batna (by Cyane), from the family of Roanoke Island. "I really liked the way she looked," Capuano recalled back in March, "and I liked Malibu Moon and the Cure the Blues side of the mare."

A deal was struck with ZWP partners Foard Wilgis and Dave Picarello to purchase the filly, whom they campaigned to win or place in 14 of 20 starts and earn $123,510. Capuano's Non Stop Stable went back in as co-owner of the mare after she delivered her third foal in 2009.

Slow and Steady's family was in the news when Steady N Love's son Shackled Love won the $100,000 Private Terms Stakes in March for

the partners. He added an allowance win two races before Malibu Beauty's stakes score.

Occasionally the partners have sold one of their prized mare's offspring. The first, her 2016 daughter by Lookin At Lucky, topped all fillies sold at the 2017 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale, bringing $175,000. Named Lookin Sharp, she won or placed in six of nine starts.

At the next year's fall sale, a Golden Lad filly, now winner Gold Finch, sold for $120,000.

Malibu Beauty was offered at the 2019 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale and exited a $45,000 RNA. The stakes win boosted her earnings to $207,134.

Slow and Steady has a yearling filly by Cross Traffic in this year's Midlantic sale with agent Dreamtime Stables. She delivered a Great Notion filly May 30. Her nine starters to date have combined to earn $1,454,439.

Somekindofmagician

Find Stakes
$75,000-guaranteed, 1⅛ mi., turf, registered Maryland-bred or sired, 3 & up. Pimlico, Aug. 21.

Dk.b./br.g., 2014, by Street Magician—Love Is Kind, by Not For Love. Bred by Earl Barnhart; owned by Bell Gable Stable LLC; trained by Gary C. Contessa.Foaled at Northview Stallion Station, Chesapeake City, Md.

	Lifetime			
starts	*1st*	*2nd*	*3rd*	*earnings*
33	6 (1)	5 (2)	4	$279,866

(through Aug. 21)

2017: 2nd **Maryland Million Turf S.**
2019: 2nd **Maryland Million Turf S.**
2021: 1st $75,000 **Find S**, 1⅛ mi., turf, registered Md.-bred or sired, 3 & up, Pimlico, Aug. 21.

Bell Gable Stable's Somekindofmagician made magic happen in the $75,000 Find as he came home a 1¾-length winner of the final stakes on Pimlico's Aug. 21 card.

Coming in off back-to-back wins at Delaware Park, Somekindofmagician settled near the back behind recent stakes winner Trifor Gold, who led through an opening quarter of :25.02 and a half in :50.72 over the yielding turf course. Somekindofmagician swung wide entering the stretch and powered to the front, reaching the wire in 1:48.13 for the 1⅛ miles.

"He's showing us signs that he's doing very well," said longtime top New York trainer Gary Contessa, who took over as private trainer for Nick Beaver's Bell Gable Stables late last year. "He went a long dry spell without winning a race, and each win I've watched him just improve drastically."

Somekindofmagician had been running in claimers in his prior starts this year, winning for a $20,000 tag in late July, and finding the winner's circle while risked for the same amount Aug. 7.

"We thought, 'Hey, let's take a shot at this stake.' It's a Maryland-bred, Maryland-sired race, which he fits," said Contessa. "We just thought he was coming in on top of his game and we'd find out if the top of his game was good enough. Sure enough, he delivered."

Jim McCue

Notching his first stakes victory in his sixth attempt, the 7-year-old gelded son of Street Magician improved his 33-start record to 6-5-4 with $279,866 in earnings. He has twice been second in the Maryland Million Turf, the first as a 3-year-old in 2017 when he missed by a head in a five-horse blanket finish.

Originally purchased by R. Larry Johnson as a 2-year-old for $14,000 at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic winter mixed sale, he was claimed for $25,000 by Bell Gable and trainer Jamie Ness at Colonial Downs in August 2019. His first three starts for his new connections included a second, at 32-1, in the Maryland Million Turf.

Bred by the late Earl Barnhart, Somekindofmagician is out of Love Is Kind, a stakes-placed daughter of Not For Love campaigned by Barnhart for three seasons, through 20 starts and a third in the 2006 Pistol Packer Handicap at Philadelphia Park before being retired to the broodmare band. Somekindofmagician is his dam's fifth foal, and only stakes winner.

Somekindofmagician was born in 2014 at Northview Stallion Station, and is one of the last two reported foals bred by Barnhart, who died in 2015. The other is the 7-year-old Not For Love gelding Love You Much (out of Runaway Pearl), who was third in the Jim McKay Turf Sprint and Laurel Dash last year and has earnings of $280,930.

State makes library, education center a part of horse park system

The Maryland Horse Industry Board designated the Maryland Horse Library and Education Center as the Educational and Cultural Center of the Maryland Horse Park System. The new, multi-faceted facility, to be located in the Maryland Horse Breeders Association's building in historic Reisterstown, will honor the history and importance of Maryland's horse industry.

"Maryland is home to over 100,000 horses, more horses per square mile than any other state," said Joe Bartenfelder, Maryland's secretary of agriculture. "With over 40 equine disciplines practiced right here in Maryland and premiere horse events held year-round, our state's equestrian industry is world-renowned. This center will teach Marylanders and visitors from around the world about the remarkable contributions of our horse industry."

Construction of the 4,500-square-foot center begins this fall and will be open to the public by spring 2022. Once completed, the facility will house more than 1,000 equestrian books, a memorabilia area, versatile meeting rooms, a media center, interactive kiosks and rotating exhibits.

"This one-of-a-kind facility in Maryland will serve as a central learning and research hub for horse sports in the state," said MHIB Chair Jim Steele. "It is our intention for the center to educate the public about the breadth of Maryland's horse industry and to motivate them to get involved. I want to thank all of the individuals who have been involved in making the center a

Located in the heart of historic Reisterstown, the Maryland Horse Library & Education Center will honor the history of horses in Maryland and serve as a hub for learning and collaboration.

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reality, it is your hard work and dedication that has made this all possible."

As part of the state's efforts to enhance and increase interest in the Maryland horse industry, the MHIB established the Maryland Horse Park System. It consists of three venues: an outdoor and field equestrian competition facility; an indoor competition and exhibition arena; and an educational and cultural center. To identify these three locations, the MHIB and the Department of Agriculture commissioned the Maryland Stadium Authority to perform a study in 2011.

Upon the conclusion of the study and improvements made to each facility, the Fair Hill Special Events Zone in Cecil County was designated the outdoor and field equestrian competition venue and the Prince George's Equestrian Center was named the indoor competition and exhibition venue. Additionally, the study found a need for an educational and cultural center. To fill this need, the Maryland Horse Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the MHBA, started planning and fundraising for the construction of the center. The foundation is responsible for the center's development and maintenance.

"The goals of the center align perfectly with the Maryland Horse Park System's overall mission to promote and increase interest in the state's horse industry," said Cricket Goodall, the MHBA executive director. "We are thrilled to be designated as part of the Maryland Horse Park System and are excited to showcase the legacy of Maryland's iconic equine sector."

TCA gives grant to Maryland Horse Foundation

The Maryland Horse Foundation received a 2021 Thoroughbred Charities of America grant to be used to support the foundation's existing educational programs, such as the Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program, in the coming year.

"After a decidedly quiet 2020, the Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program was back in June 2021 and we can't wait to engage another group of participants next summer," said Jordyn Egan, the Maryland Horse Foundation's development director. "Grant funds are essential for us to be able to maintain quality programming that will help the state of Maryland attract and retain high quality employees in the Thoroughbred industry."

In addition to the Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program, the MHF is responsible for the Work Experience Program, which allows qualified applicants to design a custom internship experience that will benefit their long-term career goals. The MHF covers the participants wages throughout their internship in addition to expenses such as housing and worker's compensation.

"There is an endless pool of talent in Maryland's horse industry; so many horse enthusiasts that have not considered their passion as a career path. It is our mission to engage those people early on and keep providing them with opportunities to grow until they get started in the workforce, " said Egan. "There are so many careers in the Thoroughbred industry, it's just a matter of channeling somebody's strengths, giving them opportunities and watching them flourish."

TCA is distributing more than $788,000 this year to 69 organizations including 46 aftercare organizations, 14 backstretch and farm worker programs, five equine-assisted therapy organizations, three Thoroughbred incentive programs, and one research organization.

TCA's 2021 grants to organizations that provide health and human services for backstretch and farm workers were bolstered by support from Fasig-Tipton and buyers at Keeneland's September yearling and November breeding stock sales as well as the January horses of all ages sale. More than $100,000 was raised and awarded to approved organizations.

TCA's mission is to fund and facilitate the support of Thoroughbreds and the people who care for them. TCA distributes grants to several categories of Thoroughbred-related nonprofits including rehabilitation, retraining, rehoming and retirement organizations; backstretch and farm employee programs; equine-assisted therapy programs; and research organizations. Since its inception in 1990, TCA has granted more than $25 million to more than 200 charities. TCA is the charitable arm of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association.

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Oct. 2 Celebration of the Horse & National Mustang Discovery Ride, see Mustangs start out on a year- long cross country trek, Tuckahoe State Park, Queen Anne
Oct. 8 Ribbon cutting, New Show Arena Baltimore County Agricultural Center & Baltimore County Horse Shows Association medal finals, Hunt Valley
Oct. 9 National Jousting Association National Tournament, Maryland's Official State Sport, Petersville Farmers Woods, Brunswick
Oct. 14-17 Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill, one of only seven 5 Star equestrian 3-Day events in the world! Fair Hill, Elkton
Oct. 23 Jim McKay Maryland Million Day, Laurel Park Racecourse, Laurel
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October MARYLAND Horse Month

Maryland-bred Stakes Winners

Equi-Photo, Inc. (2)

Runup runs off with first stakes victory in $200,000 Sorority

James McIngvale, founder of the Texas-based Gallery Furniture and a huge promoter of racing in recent years, especially when it comes to his stallion Runhappy, has spread his Thoroughbred holdings to Maryland. Runup, a homebred 2-year-old filly from Runhappy's second crop, won her stakes debut by 3 lengths in the $200,000 Sorority Stakes at Monmouth Park Sept. 6.

Sent off at nearly 15-1 in the six-horse field, Runup grabbed the lead at the start, set every fraction in the 1-mile race and was never in danger of being caught.

"She ran a big race," said trainer Laura Wohlers. "She's still a little green and she has a lot of improvement to make but she ran a nice race. I really didn't worry about her trying two turns. She's one of those fillies that, in the morning, in her gallops or at a clip, she's still in the bridle at the end."

Runup was third behind eventual stakes winner Cavalier Cupid in her debut at Colonial Downs in July, a 5-furlong maiden special weight on the turf. She won her second start at Pimlico in August, going 5½ furlongs on the dirt.

"I was more concerned about her stepping up into this company with her still being green. She's a little hard to gallop," said Wohlers. "She's always on the go, like her dad was. I think she is going to improve the more she runs. We're really happy today. Of course, we're happy for Runhappy. He's our boy."

Wohlers also trained Runhappy late in his career before he was retired to Claiborne Farm in Kentucky. McIngvale has continually supported his champion, and among the mares he owns is Up the Street, a $50,000 purchase from the 2018 Keeneland November sale with Runup in utero.

The daughter of Street Cry (Ire) was sent to Kristin Close's KJC Stables in Parkton to foal. McIngvale has another 2-year-old Maryland-bred, a colt by Kobe's Back out of Snow Lass named Dathoss, who has been breezing at The Thoroughbred Center in Lexington, Ky., but has yet to start.

McIngvale has two Maryland-breds born this year at Cordelia Stables in Laurel, and plans to foal four mares in the state in 2022.

Runup is the third winner from five starters produced by Up the Street, whose eight foals include a yearling colt by Friesan Fire named Hesfired-up and Runup's full-sister born in April, both Pennsylvania-breds. Up the Street was bred back to Runhappy for 2022. ❧

Introduced takes control in $100,000 Incredible Revenge

Introduced was in her element as she rallied past Running Memories and Miss Auramet in mid-stretch to score by three-quarters of a length in Monmouth Park's $100,000 Incredible Revenge Stakes Aug. 14.

Making her fourth stakes start of the season, the Colts Neck Stables' colorbearer stalked Running Memories through an opening quarter-mile of :22.20. Rounding the turn, as favorite Miss Auramet was making her move, Introduced went for the lead and hit the wire in 1:02.50 for 5½ furlongs on the turf.

"I think we did a good job keeping her calm before the race," said trainer Jorge Duarte Jr. "That has always been the biggest battle with her. She helped us because she didn't get too fired up. She was better pre-race today."

It was the 5-year-old mare's second straight victory on the Monmouth turf course, following a nose win over Miss Auramet in a 5-furlong allowance July 23.

"We did the same thing as we did last race with the paddock routine and bringing her over with the pony and she was fine. I felt good when I put the tack on her. Everything was smooth. She has really been running big lately," said Duarte.

The Incredible Revenge was the mare's first stakes victory since winning the Smart N Fancy at Saratoga last August.

Bred by Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds out of the Cherokee Run mare Stuttgart,

the daughter of El Padrino sold for $30,000 as a yearling at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic sale. Sent through the 2018 OBS March 2-year-old sale, she brought $310,000.

A winner in each of her four seasons, Introduced has eight wins in 19 starts with earnings of $384,801.

Introduced is the fourth winner from seven starters for Stuttgart, whose nine foals include 2-year-old Addy's Laddy T N T, a Golden Lad gelding who in late August finished third in the Timonium Juvenile.

Stuttgart is a half-sister to Maryland-bred champion Giant Run, stakes winner and stakes producer American Victory, graded stakes-placed stakes producer Who's Cozy and stakes-placed juvenile filly Stickingtogether, out of the graded stakes-winning Polish Numbers mare Who Did It and Run.

Stuttgart's yearling Madefromlucky filly Abby's Lucky Girl has been entered in the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale. After delivering a Madefromlucky filly April 25, the mare was bred to Uncle Lino. ❧

Coady Photography

Cordmaker gallops home in $100,000 Victory Gallop

Six-year-old Cordmaker is having one of his best seasons as he recorded his second stakes win of the year in the $100,000 Victory Gallop Stakes at Colonial Downs Aug. 23.

In his 31st start, and first at the New Kent, Va., track, Cordmaker tracked early pacesetter Rock On Luke through opening splits of :23.49 and :46.14 in the 1 1/16-mile test on the main track. Hitting three-quarters in 1:09.55, Rock On Luke still led the four-horse field, but not for long. Cordmaker stormed down the center of the track to take the lead and won by 2¼ lengths over fellow Maryland-bred McElmore Avenue.

Cordmaker's final time of 1:40.45 was a track record, which lasted two races until Saracosa lowered it to 1:39.72 in the Love Sign Stakes. It was the Curlin gelding's 10th victory, sixth in a stakes, as he boosted his earnings to $673,640.

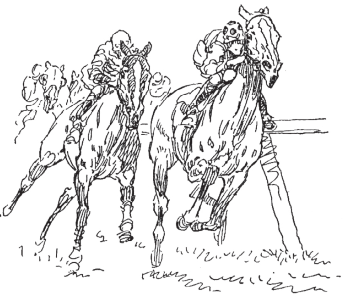
The Rodney Jenkins trainee has raced exclusively in stakes since September 2020 (11 starts, six this season) and has finished in the top three nine times. He began 2021 with thirds in the Jennings and John B. Campbell in January and February at Laurel Park, followed by a score as the favorite in the Harrison E. Johnson Memorial in March. He finished fourth in his third consecutive attempt in the Pimlico Special-G3 in mid-May and didn't reappear for more than two months when third in the Deputed Testamony at Pimlico July 31.

A winner at 2, Cordmaker took the Jennings at 3, and was Maryland-bred champion older male at 4 after picking up wins in the Harrison E. Johnson, Polynesian and DTHA Governors Day Handicap, along with a third in the Pimlico Special.

He returned in 2020 after a nine-month break and made eight starts in six months. He didn't record any wins at 5, but was second in the Deputed Testamony and Richard W. Small and third in the Pimlico Special and Native Dancer.

Bred by Bob Manfuso and Katy Voss, Cordmaker was purchased by Ellen Charles' Hillwood Stable as a yearling for $150,000 at the 2016 Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall sale. The seventh foal out of the Polish Numbers mare Tanca, he is her third stakes winner, along with Corvus (Dance With Ravens) and Las Setas (Seville-Ger).

All seven of Tanca's starters are winners. Her 2-year-old, a colt by Street Sense sold for $240,000 at last fall's Fasig-Tipton Midlantic yearling sale, has yet to be named; her yearling Madefromlucky colt is entered in this year's sale. Tanca delivered a filly by Honor Code in March, and was bred to Vino Rosso for 2022. ❧



Maryland Fund Report

Bonuses paid for races at Maryland tracks
June 1 to June 30, 2021

Ben's Cat Stakes

June 13. Purse $75,000-guaranteed. For 3-year-olds and up, registered Maryland-bred or Maryland sired. 5 fur. (off turf). 6 competed. (Closed with 27 nominations) Winner: Non-Maryland-bred by Great Notion. Second: AIR TOKEN, by Golden Lad. Breeder bonus: Carol A. Kaye ($2,062.50). Stallion bonus: Golden Lad Syndicate ($687). Third: OLDIES BUT GOODIES, by Maclean's Music. Breeder bonus: R. Larry Johnson ($1,031.25). Stallion bonus: None.

Breeder bonuses

Alan Kline Marital Trust—My My Girl: June 20, 7th race, $1,837.50. Shaka Style: June 18, 4th race, $2,137.50. ($3,975)

Linda L. Albert—Mit Mazel: June 27, 2nd race, $4,275.

Alberts Racing LLC—Johng: June 18, 3rd race, $4,275.

Anchor and Hope Farm Inc.—Ink: June 27, 3rd race, $4,702.50. She'sarollingstone: June 26, 1st race, $5,700. Uncommon Valor: June 12, 1st race, $605. ($11,007.50)

James M. Anderson—Aperitivo: June 26, 9th race, $2,565.

Angelinos Racing LLC—Miranda's Desmond: June 20, 4th race, $1,732.50.

AS Rennklub LLC—Mahkato: June 5, 4th race, $1,155.

Robert Atkinson and Mary Atkinson—Ortinola: June 5, 5th race, $997.50.

Barak Farm—Nine Mast: June 19, 6th race, $945. Stroll Smokin: June 12, 7th race, $6,412.50. ($7,357.50)

Barak Farm and Dinos Thoroughbreds LLC—Golden G: June 18, 8th race, $2,565.

Patricia Beck and Richard C. Beck—Phantom Shot: June 6, 3rd race, $4,275.

Richard F. Blue Jr.—Prince Pere: June 5, 6th race, $4,702.50; June 19, 7th race, $1,837.50. ($6,540)

Bonita Farm—Sommer Velvet: June 4, 3rd race, $4,702.50.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman—Zip the Lip: June 18, 6th race, $412.50.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Dr. Brooke Bowman—Cabra Chica: June 27, 1st race, $3,847.50. Street Lute: June 13, 10th race, $8,250. Tanka Tough: June 27, 1st race, $1,417.50. ($13,515)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman, Brooke Bowman and R. Larry Johnson—By the Sey Shore: June 5, 2nd race, $1,575.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Rebecca Davis—Claire's Darling: June 20, 3rd race,

$2,565. Tom Terrific: June 20, 5th race, $2,137.50. ($4,702.50)

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman and Shawn M. Howser—Bourbon Wildcat: June 25, 3rd race, $1,155.

Bowman and Higgins Stable—Congress Hall: June 5, 5th race, $522.50.

Shellaine Brown and Susan Baldrige—Going to the Lead: June 12, 3rd race, $4,275.

Buckingham Farm—I Love You: June 4, 2nd race, $825.

Corby Caiazzo and Stephen Sinatra—Kid Can Run: June 12, 8th race, $605.

Clover Hill Farm Inc.—Insane Sister: June 27, 1st race, $742.50.

Clover Hill Racing LLC—Ladneedsahandler: June 18, 2nd race, $3,135. Make It a Double: June 20, 3rd race, $945. ($4,080)

Susan S. Cooney—Mosby's Ranger: June 19, 3rd race, $3,135.

Copper Penny Stables LLC—Trifor Gold: June 25, 5th race, $1,575.

Country Life Farm and Fifteen Moons LLC—Moonsafe: June 5, 7th race, $1,155.

Country Life Farm and Sassy Molly LLC—Pepe and Heywood: June 18, 8th race, $945.

Dark Hollow Farm—Edie Meeny Miny Mo: June 13, 5th race, $5,985.

Dragon's Lair Farm LLC—Baptize the Boy: June 6, 7th race, $5,985.

Hassan Elamri—Golden Can: June 19, 5th race, $4,275.

Finale Farm and Mr. and Mrs. David Moose—Hufflepuff: June 11, 2nd race, $1,575.

Finn's Nickel, LLC and Anchor and Hope Farm, Inc—Egg Nog: June 19, 6th race, $495. Exculpatory: June 19, 4th race, $1,837.50. ($2,332.50)

Mrs. Janon Fisher III—Fairy Wish: June 4, 2nd race, $1,575.

Fitzhugh LLC—Lookin Dynamic: June 12, 6th race, $6,412.50. Matta: June 19, 7th race, $962.50. Welling: June 25, 2nd race, $687.50. ($8,062.50)

Paul L. Fowler Jr.—Band On Tour: June 19, 4th race, $4,987.50.

Charles A. Frock—Tam Char: June 19, 8th race, $4,702.50.

Robert J. Gerczak—Antipoison: June 18, 2nd race, $605. Dialing Dixie: June 4, 6th race, $1,417.50; June 27, 4th race, $5,700. ($7,722.50)

Greenspring Mares LLC—Writtenbythestars: June 5, 3rd race, $495.

Michael J. Harrison DVM—Judi Blue Eyes: June 12, 6th race, $2,362.50.

Terri Haupt—Talented Dr. B: June 20, 5th race, $787.50.

Hearts Desire Farm LLC and Winding Creek Farm—Looks Don't Lie: June 25, 3rd race, $605.

Hillwood Stable LLC—Dream Big Dreams: June 25, 7th race, $2,205. Hello Amigo: June 5, 6th race, $1,732.50. Hello Beautiful: June 13, 9th race, $2,750. ($6,687.50)

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth C. Holt—Golden Lassie: June 26, 5th race, $3,847.50.

Jagger Inc.—Aprilness: June 12, 2nd race, $3,135.

R. Larry Johnson—Oldies But Goodies: June 13, 6th race, $1,031.25. Originalist: June 19, 8th race, $1,732.50. Street Silence: June 19, 5th race, $825. Xmasinthecity: June 5, 8th race, $605. ($4,193.75)

Hope Haskell Jones—Depository: June 26, 8th race, $1,155.

Harry Kassap LLC—Perfume River: June 20, 6th race, $3,135.

Carol A. Kaye—Air Token: June 6, 6th race, $5,985; June 13, 6th race, $2,062.50. ($8,047.50)

Gordon Keys—Grateful Bred: June 19, 7th race, $4,987.50.

Joanne P. Krishack—Commanding General: June 19, 1st race, $605.

Lady Olivia at North Cliff LLC—Bourbon Gal: June 5, 4th race, $605. Dare to Promise: June 26, 3rd race, $5,700. ($6,305)

Robert T. Manfuso and Katharine M. Voss—Champagne Toast: June 27, 2nd race, $825. Lemon Drop Kiss: June 26, 3rd race, $1,100. McElmore Avenue: June 25, 6th race, $2,362.50. ($4,287.50)

Marathon Farm Inc.—Fool Yourself: June 18, 5th race, $4,702.50. Rockin Ron: June 6, 4th race, $495; June 26, 9th race, $495. Who U Gonna Call: June 27, 2nd race, $1,575. ($7,267.50)

Silvio Martin—Officer Matute: June 25, 8th race, $412.50.

Charles C.D. McGill—Cry No More: June 26, 4th race, $5,985. Let Us Make Gold: June 12, 1st race, $1,155; June 27, 3rd race, $1,732.50. ($8,872.50)

William Meister and Julie Arbogast—Zen Pi: June 27, 5th race, $1,575.

The Estate of Robert L. Miller—Lookin for Candy: June 12, 5th race, $2,137.50.

Angie Moore and Tiznow Syndicate—Mystic Times: June 20, 5th race, $412.50.

Kevin P. Morgan—Mr. d'Angelo: June 18, 3rd race, $825.

Morgan's Ford Farm—Nicolar: June 20, 4th race, $907.50.

Wayne Morris and Juanita Morris—Broker's Reward: June 19, 9th race, $1,237.50.

Edmund T. Mudge IV—Amplio Esquema: June 6, 2nd race, $1,417.50.

Audrey R. Murray—Pet's Night: June 18, 8th race, $495. Pounding Music: June 18, 5th race, $907.50. ($1,402.50)

Leo Nechamkin and Dennis Jankiewicz—Baltimore Bud: June 12, 4th race, $742.50.

Charles V. Parker—Forth: June 13, 7th race, $4,702.50.

Ronald Harris Parker—Marvella Nasty: June 20, 7th race, $962.50.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Leonard Pineau—Sizzling Hot: June 19, 8th race, $907.50.

Cynthia K. Rickman—Clever and Great: June 26, 7th race, $2,565.

Randy Ridgely and Gary Ridgely—Wicked Hot: June 20, 7th race, $4,987.50.

Timothy J. Rooney—B Determined: June 18, 1st race, $1,575. Mischiefs Model: June 20, 8th race, $1,155. ($2,730)

Sagamore Farm LLC—Bring Me Answers: June 5, 1st race, $495. Harpers First Ride: June 27, 6th race, $6,697.50. Youngest of Five: June 12, 7th race, $1,237.50. ($8,430)

Stephen T. Sinatra—Jackie A: June 13, 7th race, $1,732.50.

Skeedattle Associates—Hot Choice: June 12, 5th race, $787.50.

Smith Farm and Stable—El Rojo: June 18, 6th race, $2,137.50.

Sycamore Hall Thoroughbreds LLC—Artistic Reason: June 6, 7th race, $1,155; June 19, 4th race, $962.50. Brewster Flats: June 11, 2nd race, $825. Fire in the Hole: June 18, 5th race, $1,732.50. Paisley Singing: June 13, 9th race, $1,375. ($6,050)

The Elkstone Group LLC—Can't Pass It Up: June 25, 5th race, $825. Cranston's Network: June 18, 2nd race, $1,155. Danger Zone: June 5, 4th race, $3,135. Hitch a Ride: June 13, 5th race, $1,155. Lifespan: June 6, 1st race, $495; June 27, 7th race, $495. Monster Mason: June 4, 8th race, $742.50. ($8,002.50)

Thomas L. Teal—Rad Paisley: June 5, 6th race, $907.50.

Thornmar Farm and Colleen Torsney—Keepyourskateson: June 12, 5th race, $412.50.

Walter N. Vieser II—Americas Woman: June 5, 3rd race, $2,565.

Robert S. Vukelic—Crouchelli: June 26, 8th race, $5,985.

Warning Drums Racing LLC—Gleaming Sword: June 12, 4th race, $1,417.50. Mayfield of Dreams: June 20, 6th race, $1,155. ($2,572.50)

Mrs. Frank P. Wright—Grace Isabella: June 25, 1st race, $1,102.50.

ZWP Stable and Non Stop Stable—Malibu Beauty: June 13, 10th race, $2,750.

Stallion bonuses

Baltimore Bob (Baltimore Bud: June 12, 4th race, $247.40. Johng: June 18, 3rd race, $1,424.43): Robert Gerczak—$1,671.83.

Bandbox (Band On Tour: June 19, 4th race, $1,661.84. Baptize the Boy: June 6, 7th race, $1,994.20. Dream Big Dreams: June 25, 7th race, $734.71. Hello Amigo: June 5, 6th race, $577.27): Bandbox Syndicate—$4,968.02.

Bourbon Courage (Bourbon Gal: June 5, 4th race, $201.59. Bourbon Wildcat: June 25, 3rd race, $384.85. Egg Nog: June 19, 6th race, $164.93. Ink: June 27, 3rd race, $1,566.87. Insane Sister: June 27, 1st race, $247.40. Make It a Double: June 20, 3rd race, $314.87. Marvella Nasty: June 20, 7th race, $320.71. She'sarollingstone: June 26, 1st race, $1,899.24. Uncommon Valor: June 12, 1st race, $201.59): Bourbon Courage Syndicate—$5,302.05.

Buffum (Commanding General: June 19, 1st race, $201.59. Malibu Beauty: June 13, 10th race, $916): Buffum Syndicate—$1,117.59.

Cal Nation (Judi Blue Eyes: June 12, 6th race, $787.19): Cal Nation Syndicate.

Dortmund (Sommer Velvet: June 4, 3rd race, $1,566.87): Kaleem S. Shah.

Freedom Child (Mit Mazel: June 27, 2nd race, $1,424.43. Tom Terrific: June 20, 5th race, $712.22): Freedom Child Syndicate—$2,136.65.

Friesan Fire (Hot Choice: June 12, 5th race, $262.40. Who U Gonna Call: June 27, 2nd race, $524.79): Friesan Fire Syndicate—$787.19.

Golden Lad (Air Token: June 6, 6th race, $1,994.20; June 13, 6th race, $687. Golden Can: June 19, 5th race, $1,424.43. Golden Lassie: June 26, 5th race, $1,281.99. Hello Beautiful: June 13, 9th race, $916. Ladneedsahandler: June 18, 2nd race, $1,044.58. Let Us Make Gold: June 12, 1st race, $384.85; June 27, 3rd race, $577.27. Paisley Singing: June 13, 9th race, $458): Golden Lad Syndicate—$8,768.32.

Great Notion (Americas Woman: June 5, 3rd race, $854.66. Clever and Great: June 26, 7th race, $854.66. Cry No More: June 26, 4th race, $1,994.20. Grateful Bred: June 19, 7th race, $1,661.84. Tam Char: June 19, 8th race, $1,566.87. Zen Pi: June 27, 5th race, $524.79): Great Notion Syndicate—$7,457.02.

Hangover Kid (Pounding Music: June 18, 5th race, $302.38): Hangover Kid Syndicate.

Imagining (Claire's Darling: June 20, 3rd race, $854.66. Kid Can Run: June 12, 8th race, $201.59. Zip the Lip: June 18, 6th race, $137.45): Imagining Syndicate—$1,193.70.

Mosler (Depository: June 26, 8th race, $384.85. Fool Yourself: June 18, 5th race, $1,566.87. Miranda's Desmond: June 20, 4th race, $577.27. Moonsafe: June 5, 7th race, $384.85. Pepe and Heywood: June 18, 8th race, $314.87. Wicked Hot: June 20, 7th race, $1,661.84): Country Life Farm, Adele Dilschneider and Seth Hancock—$4,890.55.

Not Abroad (Officer Matute: June 25, 8th race, $137.45): Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Bowman.

Orientate (Prince Pere: June 5, 6th race, $1,566.87; June 19, 7th race, $612.26): The Orientate Syndicate—$2,179.13.

Outflanker (Crouchelli: June 26, 8th race, $1,994.20): Outflanker Syndicate.

Petionville (Pet's Night: June 18, 8th race, $164.93): Everest Stables Inc.

Redeemed (Going to the Lead: June 12, 3rd race, $1,424.43): Redeemed Syndicate.

Seville (Ger) (Amplio Esquema: June 6, 2nd race, $472.31. I Love You: June 4, 2nd race, $274.89. Mr. d'Angelo: June 18, 3rd race, $274.89. Perfume River: June 20, 6th race, $1,044.58): Seville Syndicate—$2,066.67.

Street Magician (By the Sey Shore: June 5, 2nd race, $524.79. Cabra Chica: June 27, 1st race, $1,281.99. Street Lute: June 13, 10th race, $2,748. Street Silence: June 19, 5th race, $274.89. Tanka Tough: June 27, 1st race, $472.31): R. Larry Johnson—$5,301.98.

Super Ninety Nine (Fairy Wish: June 4, 2nd race, $524.79. Nine Mast: June 19, 6th race, $314.87. Ortinola: June 5, 5th race, $332.37): Country Life Farm—$1,172.03.

Tritap (Trifor Gold: June 25, 5th race, $524.79): Tritap Syndicate.

Maryland-bred top earners in 2021

(through September 1)

1. Knicks Go	$4,020,000	11. Galerio	$121,827
2. Jaxon Traveler	269,448	12. Kiss the Girl	121,760
3. Exculpatory	201,762	13. Laki	121,500
4. Street Lute	195,500	14. McElmore Avenue	118,855
5. Field Pass	167,250	15. Air Token	116,846
6. Malibu Beauty	166,118	16. Paisley Singing	116,801
7. Cordmaker	162,500	17. Cry No More	116,033
8. Aloha West	160,568	18. Margie's Heaven	113,991
9. Hello Beautiful	147,500	19. Pete's Play Call	113,564
10. Harpers First Ride	126,609	20. Shackled Love	112,682

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or email Emily@marylandthoroughbred.com

THE THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY NEWSLETTER

Post Time

- News, views and insights that matter to breeders, owners and racing industry professionals - **October 2021** -

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In Remembrance of Chublicious

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Horologist adds Saratoga stakes win to her list of accomplishments

By Bill Finley

She has won richer races and more important races, but Horologist's finest hour may have come Aug. 22 at Saratoga. Racing at the sport's Mecca in front of 21,750 fans, the New Jersey-bred was a buzz saw in the $120,000 Summer Colony Stakes, winning by 8½ lengths.

"There's nothing like Saratoga," co-owner Cameron Beatty said. "There's nothing else like hearing the crowd cheer when she's coming through the stretch and there's nothing else like the atmosphere. Because of all that, I would say this was probably her best race overall. I would rate this memory as one of the best."

CHELSEA DURAND/COGLIANESE PHOTOGRAPHY

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It was Horologist's ninth career win, her sixth in stakes company, and it pushed her earnings to $892,939. She covered the 1⅛ miles run over a "good" track that was sealed in 1:51.57. Her Beyer number was 88.

The Summer Colony came less than two months after one of the lowest points of Horologist's career. She shipped to Thistledown for the June 26 Lady Jacqueline Stakes where she was 8-5 against a group of rivals that appeared to be over matched. Instead, she had trouble finding racing room for much of the race and finished fifth, 8¾ lengths behind the winner. But a lesson was learned that day. Horologist has enough natural speed that she can go to the front and control the race, one way to make sure she stays out of trouble.

"I think we've kept her from winning on a couple of occasions," trainer Bill Mott said.

In the July 25 Grade 3 Shuvee, also at Saratoga, Horologist was never given a chance to get herself into a jackpot. With Junior Alvarado aboard, she went right to the lead before getting caught by Royal Flag inside the final furlong. Though she was second, Horologist turned in a 94 Beyer figure, her best of the year.

She ran well enough that day that a start in the Grade 1 Personal Ensign against Horse of the Year contender Letruska made some sense. Instead, the decision was reached to go in the easier spot.

"Some of the partners wanted to go to the Personal Ensign," Beatty said. "But, at the end of day, we relied on Bill and his team to put her in the right spot. We figured it was best to give her a little confidence booster rather than throwing her to the wolves. Bill wanted to put us in the right spot to springboard us toward the Beldame."

It was not an easy spot, no stakes race at Saratoga is, but neither was it a particularly difficult one. With the scratch of Dunbar Road, only a field of five remained and the public decided that Horologist was the one to beat, sending her off at even money.

Once again, Alvarado rode aggressively. Breaking from post two, Horologist was hustled to the lead and enjoyed a 2-length lead 6 furlongs into the race.

"It was simple," Alvarado said. "I rode her like the best horse and she showed it out there. Once she put herself on the lead, she took me all the way around. She's very quick and is a good gate filly. If she wanted, she could go faster without using much."

The 5-year-old mare poured it on in the stretch and was uncontested as she turned the Summer Colony into a one-horse race in the final eighth.

"The tactics that we used in the last two races, the Summer Colony and the Shuvee, are not the tactics we were using before," Beatty said. "We decided to let her go and use her natural speed to her advantage. That way she can't get into any early trouble. Since we've done that, she's really been a completely different horse."

For Horologist, the Oct. 10 Grade 2 Beldame at Belmont, a race she won last year, will be next. She will be attempting to become the first horse to win the race back-to-back since Sightseek, the 2003-2004 winner. After winning the Beldame last year, Beatty and his partners, a list that now consists of Medallion Racing, Parkland Thoroughbreds, Abbondanza Racing LLC, Paradise Farms Corp. and David Staudacher, put up the money to supplement Horologist to the Breeders' Cup Distaff. It didn't turn out well as she finished ninth. But another big performance in the Beldame could very well mean a second crack at the Distaff.

"That option is definitely on the table," Beatty said. "The Beldame is such a big race and it's prestigious. If she does well in there that conversation [about the Breeders' Cup] with the partners and Bill and his team will take place. It will be a topic of conversation."

With Horologist having been supplemented last year, the owners do not have to put up any additional money to get her into this year's race.

If she goes in the Breeders' Cup Distaff, that will likely be the last start for the daughter of Gemologist, who has been the Jersey breeding program's brightest star since she broke her maiden by 20¾ lengths way back in August 2018 at Monmouth Park. Last year, she was entered in the Keeneland November sale, but the owners pulled her out and decided to let her race one more year. Beatty said she will be again entered in the Keeneland sale, and this time she will go through the ring.

"That's the plan, to put her through the sales ring," he said. "When you look at these mares, the value is better for a 5-year-old versus a 6-year-old. For obvious reasons, the buyers want younger mares. Then there's the way she looks. Physically, she just looks great. She has so many great features and is such a nice specimen to look at. The buyers will like that. We think this fall is the best time to put her through the sales ring."

But first there is the Beldame, where a win would put her over the $1 million mark in earnings and, possibly the Distaff, where she could join Open Mind as the only New Jersey-breds to win a Breeders' Cup race. The list of accomplishments grew longer with the Summer Colony win, but there's more to be done.

Amatteroftime gets the money in Charles Hesse III Handicap

Silvino Ramirez's Amatteroftime opened up in the stretch for a 4¾-length victory over Prendimi in the $125,000 Charles Hesse III Handicap at 1 1/16 miles Aug. 29.

"He has been a good claim for us [for $20,000 June 26]," said Ramirez. "He has been improving for us. He likes our program. He ran good, and I expected him to win. I think the key is that he likes going longer. He's the kind of horse who needs a rider to really push him. Paco Lopez did that. He's doing really good right now and he fits well with Jersey-breds."

Amatteroftime, trained his owner, earned his first stakes win since capturing the 2018 New Jersey Breeders Handicap. The 6-year-old gelding is now 5-for-13 at Monmouth Park during his career.

"When I rode him the last time and he was going long on the dirt he was just a little short," said winning rider Paco Lopez. "I know this horse and I know what he needs. He needs to be ridden aggressively. I got him in good position today. The race was slow early but I was able to stay a close second. I waited for [Optic Way] to come back to us and my horse gave me a strong run when I asked him to go."

EQUI-PHOTO, INC. (2)

The son of Eskendereya out of the Victory Gallop mare Victory Pool was bred in New Jersey by New Farm and has career earnings of $326,879.

Alta Velocita earns first stakes victory in Eleven North Handicap

Imaginary Stables and M3 Racing Stables Alta Velocita continued her successful 2021 campaign winning the $100,000 Eleven North Handicap Aug. 29.

Alta Velocita rallied from eighth, 7 lengths back, at the quarter pole, finally catching Jersey Jewel on the wire to win for the fourth time in five starts and earn her first stakes victory in her 15-race career.

"At the top of the stretch I was hoping we'd get fourth because of how far back she was," said winning trainer Andrew Simoff. "Maybe fifth and then a long drive home. As it got closer my hopes picked up. I still didn't she was going to get there inside the sixteenth pole. She had that late surge and switched to that right lead and took off and that was it."

"The owners picked her out in Florida [claiming her for $20,000] and they told me the day they claimed her that they would run her one time in Florida and then send her North to me. When they sent her she was a real straight filly, easy to train, no problems. She just keeps getting better. Her numbers were good, so I thought she deserved a shot at her first stakes win."

Bred in New Jersey by Law Legacy Stables, Alta Velocita is by Il Postino out of Over the Bridge, by Hit the Trail. The 5-year-old mare has earned $249,378.

Pickin' Time gets back to winner's circle in the New Jersey Breeders Handicap

John Bowers homebred Pickin' Time won the $100,000 New Jersey Breeders Handicap for 3-year-olds and up as part of the New Jersey Thoroughbred Festival Aug. 29.

"It's great that Pickin' Time and Mr. [John] Bowers would win this race on Jersey-bred day," said Breen. "He's a top breeder. It's difficult when you have a top 2-year-old and you have to transition to 3. Then at 3, having to run against older horses in a race like this like Golden Brown, who is a top older horse, one of the best Jersey-breds ever.

"We knew we had our work cut out for us. Our horse was training well and doing well. I'm just glad he showed up. We talked a lot about the cut back [to 6 furlongs from 1⅛ miles in the TVG.com Haskell Invitational in his last start]. We sharpened him up with the breezes. We did all I thought we needed him to do to get him ready for a top effort off the shelf. He showed up. They went fast. But he's a fast horse too."

Ridden by Nik Juarez, Pickin' Time looped three-wide coming out of the final turn while Golden Brown, ridden by Lopez, shot the rail.

"It was for the best that I had to go wide coming out of the final turn," said Juarez. "The favorite [Golden Brown] was down on the rail so I wanted to get the jump before he got through and make sure I was clear and kick some dirt. We were able to get the jump on him and that made a difference."

Pickin' Time, making his first start since being elevated to fourth in the Grade 1 Haskell, increased his earnings to $309,825.

EQUI-PHOTO INC.

In Remembrance of Chublicious

Hey Chub—Sassy Broad, by Arch
February 27, 2011-August 8, 2021

Winner of 13 races in 38 starts including eight seconds and two thirds. Earnings of $754,378

2016 John J. Reilly Handicap at Monmouth Park

2016 Mr. Prospector Stakes at Monmouth Park

2016 New Jersey Breeders' Handicap at Monmouth Park

2017 John J. Reilly Handicap at Monmouth Park

2017 Frank J. De Francis Memorial Dash (G3) at Laurel Park

2018 Mr. Prospector Stakes at Monmouth Park

North Carolina

THOROUGHBRED ASSOCIATION

October 2021

President's message

Hello members.

Are you as excited as I am with the passage of the Sports Betting Bill by the NC State Senate? Now the bill is in the House waiting for an updated version that includes horse race wagering. If you are eager for the possibility of placing a legal horse bet in our state while at your home, please let your district's house representative know. Ask them to vote in favor of the bill. My fingers are crossed, and I have hope.

Wow, how about that Shea D Summer? With all her recent races, her speed figures are improving. Victorious in three stake races already, she's surely to be a contender for a NCTA award. Congratulations to Dan and Christy Shea - Shea D Stables for their continued success with this filly. Also, cheers to the connections of the horses that made an appearance in the winner's circle during this reporting period, Nancy, Clint, Beth, Bill, and Carrington.

As always, thank you for supporting the NCTA.

/Rebecca Montaldo

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Racing Recap

Shea D Summer wins the Azalea Stakes at Gulfstream Park for owners Dan and Christy Shea - Shea D Stables. *Ryan Thompson/Coglianese Photgraphy*

Secretly Wicked (Wicked Strong out of Secret Congrats, by Congrats) won the fourth race at Ellis Park July 30 for breeder Nancy Shuford. The 4-year old chestnut filly ran 6 furlongs in 1:10:22 winning by 4½ lengths. Competing against four others, she broke from post two in an allowance-optional claimer, though not in for a tag.

Henry Standingbear (Atreides out of Indiancreek Maggie, by Roanoke) won at Charles Town July 31 in race seven for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. Beating eight other contenders and breaking for post position five, the 4-year-old dark bay gelding ran 7 furlongs in 1:30.55, winning by a nose a claiming race.

Tough to Tame (Speightster out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge) won at Indiana Grand Aug. 5 in race five for breeder Beth Muirhead in an allowance race. The 2-year-old chestnut colt went 5½ furlongs in 1:05.10. Breaking from post two, his margin of victory against

four foes was 3¾ lengths. This is Tough to Tame's second win in row in just three starts. He placed second in his first start.

Pretty Boy Elm (Liam's Map out of Mystic Mama, by Scat Daddy) won at Ellis Park Aug. 6 in race one for breeder and co-owner Nancy Shuford. The 3-year-old gray or roan gelding beat six other contenders while going 5½ furlongs in 1:02.86. Breaking from post seven he won by a head and was claimed.

Miss Grandstander (Fiber Sonde out of Athena Grand, by Civilisation) won at Charles Town Aug. 7 in race one for breeders Dr. and Mrs. Clint Lowry. The 4-year-old dark bay filly broke from post position five and ran 4½ furlongs in :53.05, winning by a neck. Beating out four other fillies, Miss Grandstander was claimed.

Shea D Summer (Summer Front out of Empress of Gold, by Empire Maker) won the Azalea Stakes at Gulfstream Park Aug. 7 for owners Mr. and Mrs. Dan Shea of Shea D Boys Stables. The dark bay 3-year-old filly held sway over the competitive field of five other fillies while running 7 furlongs in 1:23.11 and winning by 3¼ lengths. As her speed figures improve with every race, this is the third stakes win for Shea D Summer.

Boss Man (English Channel out of Jenny Joy, by Acceptable) won over fences at Colonial Downs in race 10 Aug. 9 for owners Bill and Carrington Price – Carrington Holdings. The 11-year-old chestnut gelding ran 2½ miles in 3:54.00, breaking the course record! Running back to his winning form, Boss Man was victorious over five foes, leading the whole way and winning by 2½ lengths.

Flat Out Flying (Flat Out out of She'sa Tough Tiger, by Tiger Ridge) won at Delaware Park Aug. 23 for breeders Beth Muirhead and Frank Coniglio. The 5-year-old chestnut gelding ran 1 mile and 70 yards in 1:44.71 beating out six other horses. Flat Out Flying broke from post position one and was claimed after crossing the wire 6 lengths ahead of the pack.

Hitting the Board

July 25 – August 24, 2021

Date	Horse	Track	NCTA Connection	Result
25-Jul	Catauga County	Mountaineer Park	Bred by Nancy Shuford	3rd
27-Jul	Dionysus' Chalice	Thistledown	Bred by Clint Lowry	2nd
28-Jul	Always Special	Thistledown	Bred & owned by Beth Muirhead	2nd
30-Jul	Secretly Wicked	Ellis Park	Bred by Nancy Shuford	**WINNER!**
31-Jul	Henry Standingbear	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	**WINNER!**
5-Aug	Tough To Tame	Indiana Grand	Bred by Beth Muirhead	**WINNER!**
6-Aug	PJ's Hidden Jewel	Monmouth Park	Bred & owned by Ken Orchard - Jet M Stables	2nd
6-Aug	Cayenne Creek	Charles Town	Bred by Clint Lowry	2nd
6-Aug	Pretty Boy Elm	Ellis Park	Bred & owned by Nancy Shuford	**WINNER!**
7-Aug	Miss Grandstander	Charles Town	Bred by Clint Lowry	**WINNER!**
7-Aug	**Shea D Summer**	**Gulfstream Park – Azalea Stakes**	**Owned by Dan & Christy Shea - Shea D Boys Stables**	**WINNER!**
9-Aug	Secret Zar	Delaware Park	Bred by Nancy Shuford	2nd
9-Aug	Boss Man	Colonial Downs - Hurdles	Owned by Bill & Carrington Price	**WINNER!**
15-Aug	Danz a Rebel	Canterbury Park	Bred by Nancy Shuford	3rd
18-Aug	Royalbonnielegacy	Finger Lakes	Owned by Brad Graham in a partnership	3rd
21-Aug	Henry Standingbear	Charles Town	Bred & owned by Clint Lowry	3rd
23-Aug	Flat Out Flying	Delaware Park	Bred by Beth Muirhead & Frank Coniglio	**WINNER!**

PENNSYLVANIA HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

PA Thoroughbred NEWSLETTER

October 2021
pabred.com

PA-BRED REMINDERS

- **Early registration:** Within 365 days of foaling
- **Yearling registration:** Dec. 31 of yearling year
- **Stallion registration:** Feb. 15 of year breeding
- **Broodmare domicile:** Dec. 1 or 14 days after a public sale or entering state if being bred back to PA-sire

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- **Rules, regulations, forms**

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Pennsylvania Day At the Races 2021

by Linda Dougherty

While Mother Nature chose to unleash a heavy dose of rain in the run-up to Pennsylvania's Day At the Races, the ensuing sloppy track and off-the-turf races did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of all those in attendance at Parx Racing on Monday, Aug. 23.

The afternoon featured a 12-race card devoted to Pennsylvania-breds, including five $100,000 stakes, and the winners sported a fine mix of pedigrees, from those representing stallions standing in the Keystone State to others sired by horses that stand in Kentucky and beyond.

And for fans of Smarty Jones, without a doubt one of the most popular Pennsylvania-breds, he appears as the broodmare sire of two of the five stakes winners—Mrs. Penny Stakes winner Precious, and Storm Cat Stakes winner I Am Redeemed.

The stakes parade commenced with the Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial Stakes at 6 furlongs on the main track for fillies and mares. It featured the undefeated Chub Wagon, who was looking for her ninth consecutive win for co-owners Danny Lopez and George Chestnut. At the wire, however, it was The Elkstone Group's Don't Call Me Mary who had collared Chub Wagon near the eighth pole and drew away to a nearly 2-length victory, covering the distance in a fleet 1:09.57 over the sloppy sealed surface.

The winner is trained by Todd Pletcher and bred by Richard Simoff, who owns Twin Ponds Farm in Oxford, Pa.

The Garofalo Memorial was the first blacktype victory for Don't Call Me Mary, and she is the first stakes winner for her dam Monette, a daughter of Not For Love. Now 24, Monette has a yearling colt by Hoppertunity.

When the rain forced the Mrs. Penny Stakes for fillies and mares off the turf, there was one owner/breeder who wasn't concerned in the least about his filly's ability to handle the surface switch.

"The mud didn't phase us at all," said Greg Newell, president of the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association, about Precious, who runs under his Newell Thoroughbreds banner and is trained by John Servis. "She'd already won a stakes race [the 2019 Blue Mountain Juvenile Fillies Stakes at Penn National] on an off-track before."

PA Day At the Races continued from page 1

The Mrs. Penny scratched down to four horses, but instead of being a humdrum affair it turned into a test of strategy for the jockeys, with Frankie Pennington going to the lead aboard Precious, setting slow fractions, and then having plenty left at the end of 1 1/16 miles to repulse the challenge of favored Vault, from the Brad Cox barn. She won by 1¼ lengths over the sloppy surface.

Brilliant Sunshine, the dam of Precious, was one of the first Thoroughbreds owned by Newell, and was also trained by Servis during her 21-race career. While her first foals were unassuming, Newell said he was not going to give up on the daughter of Smarty Jones as a broodmare.

"She just needed the proper nick to make it work," he said. One of those nicks came from the Storm Cat line, as Newell chose Fed Biz for Brilliant Sunshine's mate in 2016, and she produced a dark bay or brown filly in March 2017 whom Newell christened "Precious."

"She was foaled around the time my wife Kathy was diagnosed with breast cancer," said Newell. "When you go through something like that, you realize how precious life is. So treat each day like it is precious—and the filly's name is a message of hope for those on that journey."

Precious now has a lifetime record of five wins from 13 starts, and earnings of $252,020.

Newell said Brilliant Sunshine was bred to Lookin At Lucky this year. She has a yearling filly by Hoppertunity and foaled a colt by Not This Time this spring.

The Storm Cat Stakes, for 3-year-olds and up at 1 1/16 miles, showcased the burgeoning talent of sophomore I Am Redeemed, who rode the rail and humbled a seasoned field, winning by 3½ lengths under jockey Abner Adorno.

The race not only was the son of Redeemed's first stakes victory, but the first for his trainer, Penny Pearce, as well as for Adorno and owner/breeder Dr. Larry Rebbecchi.

Rebbecchi, a small animal veterinarian, bred the colt from his mare One Smart Philly, who, like Brilliant Sunshine, is a daughter of Smarty Jones.

"I claimed the mare for $5,000," said Rebbecchi. "I got her for the genetics. I Am Redeemed is her second foal; he was foaled at New Bolton Center, where I send all my mares. Then they come back to my farm in Woodstown, New Jersey."

One Smart Philly, a six-time winner of $323,490, foaled a colt by Uncle Lino this season and has a yearling filly by that stallion. Her first foal, Uncle Tony P (by Posse), was a winner last year at 3 and currently races for Rebbecchi at Parx.

Rebbecchi owns Philadelphia Animal Hospital near the Philadelphia International Airport, as well as two PetCheck Urgent Care offices, which offers affordable veterinary care at extended hours, in south Jersey. Rebbecchi said he has plans to open a third PetCheck in the Levittown, Pa., area.

"My whole practice follows my horses," he said. "If I Am Redeemed is able to run in the Pennsylvania Derby (Sept. 25), you will see a lot of people at Parx wearing the same T-shirt in support of him—something that says 'I Am Redeemed, brought to you by the Philadelphia Animal Hospital.'"

Unraced at 2, I Am Redeemed now has won $112,200, capturing three of his four starts this year.

Rebbecchi said that he anonymously gives away most of the money his horses earn to local animal rescues, as well as to individuals or small organizations that need help.

Stefcon Racing's Admiral Abe, a 5-year-old son of Midshipman trained by Robert Mosco and co-bred by White Diamond Inc. and Five Ring Stables, is

A few words from the Executive Secretary

PA Day at the Races 2021 on Aug. 23 was a huge success with a great turnout! Congratulations to all the competitors! We hope to continue the high spirits and good luck from Pennsylvania's Day at the Races into the fall months for broodmare domicile.

Don't miss out on being part of one of the top breeding programs in the country! As a reminder, Broodmare Domicile Reports are due to the PHBA by Dec. 1. Broodmares must be in the state by Dec. 1, or within 14 days of a public sale (60 days if sale outside the US). If you're breeding back to a registered PA stallion, you must complete the domicile report within 14 days of entering the state and reside continuously for 60 days through foaling.

Forms can be found online at www.pabred.com. It would be greatly appreciated if you can fill out and submit the form online. If you are unable to submit the form online, you may either print out a report and mail it in, or let us know and we'll mail a copy to you.

Forms will be mailed and emailed to our stallion owners and broodmare domicile farm owners to have your information listed in our annual Stallion Directory. Submissions will be due in early October. Don't miss out on this free service!

enjoying the best season of his career, as evidenced by his victory in the Marshall Jenney Handicap, his first stakes score.

Not only did the gelding lead in gate-to-wire fashion under Silvestre Gonzalez, but he covered the 5 furlongs in a swift :56.99, just missing the track record of :56.06 set by My Favorite Grub in 1998.

The victory was the fifth from nine starts for Admiral Abe in 2021, and pushed his career earnings to $420,142.

James Walker, who breeds under the name White Diamond Inc., raced Precious Penny, the dam of Admiral Abe, several times before retiring her to the broodmare ranks due to an injury. The daughter of Harlan's Holiday was bred to Midshipman in back-to-back years – the first resulted in $145,700-earner Jag, the second produced Admiral Abe, foaled at Sylmar Farm in Christiana, Pa. Admiral Abe initially raced for Walker before being claimed away.

"I just breed on a small scale," said Walker, who heads Access Strategy Partners, a medical device consulting company, in Braintree, Mass. "I really like the Pennsylvania breeding program; it makes a lot of sense for me."

Walker sold Precious Penny at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December sale in 2018, along with her weanling PA-bred daughter by Uncle Lino. The filly, Hipnotizada, became Uncle Lino's first winner in July 2020 at Delaware Park. Hipnotizada's most recent win was a Penn National allowance in May.

Longtime New Jersey breeders Hidden Aces 4-D Farm have reaped the benefit of dropping their foals in Pennsylvania the last several years, with the most recent success story being the victory of Fortheluvofbourbon in the Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes, the grand finale on the Pennsylvania's Day At the Races program.

The 4-year-old son of Maryland sire Bourbon Courage, trained by Michael Pino, survived a fierce stretch battle with Golden Candy and Final Shot to prevail in the 6-furlong test by a neck under Paco Lopez. It was his fifth lifetime win from 11 starts, and first added-money triumph. His lifetime earnings are $193,848.

Fortheluvofbourbon represents several generations of hard-hitting performers bred by Hidden Acres 4-D Farm, which is located in Allentown, N.J., and owned by the Wilkinson family. Found in his female family is the mare Laura Who, a daughter of Deputed Testamony who made 88 starts during her career and produced many good horses, including stakes winner Love Who.

The Pennsylvania's Day At the Races card also featured two winners sired by the prolific Pennsylvania stallion Weigelia. The first, Fore Harp, broke his maiden with pizzazz for trainer Robert E. "Butch" Reid, storming to a nearly 9-length victory in a 7-furlong test after leading all the way under Pennington. He was bred by St. Omer's Farm. The second, Confirmed Genius, also led from start to finish in capturing a 7-furlong allowance by nearly 4 lengths. She was bred by Lynda Furlong and trained by Jamie Ness.

2021 PENNSYLVANIA-BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, APRIL 27 **PARX RACING**	**$100,000 PAGE MCKENNEY HANDICAP** 3 & up, 7 furlongs 1st - Wait for It, 2nd - Chilly in Charge, 3rd - Breezy Gust	**$100,000 UNIQUE BELLA STAKES** 3 & up, fillies & mares, 7 furlongs 1st - Chub Wagon, 2nd - Promised Storm, 3rd - Ujjayi
FRIDAY, MAY 28 **PENN NATIONAL**	**$100,000 LYPHARD STAKES** 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles, off turf 1st - Trolley Ride, 2nd - Midnight Obsession, 3rd - Discreetly Tough	**$100,000 WITH ANTICIPATION STAKES** 3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, off turf 1st - Ravens Delight, 2nd - Chilly in Charge, 3rd - Saratoga Jack
TUESDAY, JUNE 22 **PARX RACING**	**$100,000 CROWD PLEASER STAKES** 3YO, 1 1/16 miles, off turf 1st - Beren, 2nd - Like a Saltshaker, 3rd - Fire's Finale	**$100,000 POWER BY FAR STAKES** 3 & up, fillies & mares, 5 furlongs, off turf 1st - Hey Mamaluke, 2nd - Precious, 3rd - Tara's Talent
MONDAY, JULY 19 **PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS**	**$100,000 MALVERN ROSE STAKES** 3YO fillies, 6½ furlongs 1st - Just One Time, 2nd - Maldives Model, 3rd - Tactical Pajamas	
MONDAY, JULY 26 **PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS**	**$100,000 PRINCESS OF SYLMAR STAKES** 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 mile 70 yards 1st - Darcy Mae, 2nd - Redeem My Heart, 3rd - Wildcat Cartridge	
TUESDAY, JULY 27 **PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS**	**$100,000 HARD SPUN STAKES** 3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards 1st - Wait For It, 2nd - Viski Jones, 3rd - Ravens Delight	
PENNSYLVANIA'S DAY AT THE RACES **MONDAY, AUGUST 23** **PARX RACING**	**$100,000 BANJO PICKER SPRINT STAKES** 3 & up, 6 furlongs 1st - Fortheluvofbourbon, 2nd - Golden Candy, 3rd - Prince of Rain **$100,000 MRS. PENNY STAKES** 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles, off turf 1st - Precious, 2nd - Vault, 3rd - Trolley Ride	**$100,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP** 3 & up, 5 furlongs, off turf 1st - Admiral Abe, 2nd - Smooth B, 3rd - Screen Saver **$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES** 3 & up, 1 1/16 miles 1st - I Am Redeemed, 2nd - Lord Winsalot, 3rd - Irish Cork
	$100,000 DR. TERESA GAROFALO MEMORIAL STAKES 3 & up, fillies & mares, 6 furlongs 1st - Don't Call Me Mary, 2nd - Chub Wagon, 3rd - Cinnabunny	
MONDAY, SEPT. 13 **PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS**	**$100,000 FINEST CITY STAKES** 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs	**$100,000 MARK MCDERMOTT STAKES** 2YO, 6 furlongs
SATURDAY, SEPT. 25 **PARX RACING**	**$200,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP** 3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf	**$200,000 PLUM PRETTY STAKES** 3 & up, fillies & mares, 1 1/16 miles
FRIDAY, OCT. 22 **PENN NATIONAL**	**$100,000 DANZIG STAKES** 3YO, 6 furlongs	**$100,000 NEW START STAKES** 3YO fillies, 6 furlongs
FRIDAY, NOV. 26 **PENN NATIONAL**	**$200,000 SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES** 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs	
TUESDAY, DEC. 7 **PARX RACING**	**$200,000 PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES** 2YO, 7 furlongs	

Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association

Summer **2021**

Parx Around the Ovals

7/31/21
Trainer John Servis dominated in the $200,000 Grade 3 Monmouth Oaks at Monmouth Park getting the win with PA-Bred Leader of the Band(Bandbox out of Catsuit, by Sir Cat) with a perfectly timed ride by jockey Frankie Pennington for owner & breeder SMD Limited. PA-Bred Midnight Obsession(Overanalyze out of Halo Hollie, by Halo's Image) ran a clear 3rd with jockey Paco Lopez for owner Main Line Racing Stable.

8/14/2021
Six year old Forewarned(Flat Out out of Fortune Play by Five Star Day) got 2nd only losing by a head in after an extremely game effort at Thistledown in the $100,000 Best of Ohio Governor's Buckeye Cup Stakes with jockey Sonny Leon for owner and trainer Uriah St. Lewis.

8/23/21
PA Day at the Races at Parx Racing
Chub Wagon(Hey Chub out of Takin The Plunge, by Lion Heart) placed second to Don't Call Me Mary(El Padrino out of Monette, by Not For Love) after her only lifetime loss in our $100,000 Dr. Teresa Garofalo Memorial Stakes for Pennsylvania Breds at Parx Racing with jockey Jomar Torres aboard for the 6 furlongs for trainer Guadalupe Preciado and owner/breeder Daniel Lopez and George Chestnut.

Precious(Feb Biz out of Brilliant Sunshine, by Smarty Jones) and jockey Frankie Pennington win the $100,000 Mrs. Penny Stakes for Pennsylvania Breds after being taken off the turf in the 1 & 1/16th miles at Parx Racing for trainer John Servis for owner/ breeder Newell Thoroughbreds, LTD.

I Am Redeemed(Redeemed out of One Smart Philly, by Smarty Jones) earns his first stakes victory in the $100,000 Storm Cat Stakes for Pennsylvania Breds with an exciting rail ride with jockey Abner Adorno for trainer Penny Pearce for owner/breeder Dr. Lawrence Rebbecchi, Jr. going 1 & 1/16th miles.

Admiral Abe(Midshipman out of Precious Penny, by Harlan's Holiday), a five year old son of Midshipman, and jockey Silvestre Gonzalez win edging away from the competition on the sloppy track in the $100,000 Marshall Jenney Handicap for Pennsylvania Breds going 5 furlongs for trainer Robert Mosco and owner StefCon Racing. Smooth B ran 2nd by 1 3/4 lengths with jockey Frankie Pennington for trainer Butch Reid, Jr. and owner LC Racing LLC.

LET'S GO RACING TV SHOW

Join our hosts Dani Gibson and Dick Jerardi for the latest in Thoroughbred news, behind the scenes access, and more every **Saturday at 10am on PHL-17!**

PTHA Winter Trophy Race Winners

Date	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	Owner
7-7-2021	American Talent	Anthony Nunez	Edward Coletti Jr.	Stony Brook Stables LLC
7-14-2021	Sweet Willemina	Silvestre Gonzalez	Scott Lake	Home Team Stables
7-21-2021	Sparty	Luis Hernandez	Miguel Penaloza	Miguel Penaloza
7-28-2021	Ouch Ouch Ouch	Silvestre Gonzalez	Ronald Dandy	Kazdan Racing Stables
8-4-2021	Leftatthealtar	Courney Gilardo	Steven Krebs	Harry A. Simon
8-25-2021	Speightster's Gold	Roberto Rosado	Roberto Mosco	Lawson Racing Stables

Fortheluvofbourbon(Bourbon Courage out of Nosubstitueforluv, by Not For Love) and jockey Paco Lopez won the $100,000 Banjo Picker Sprint Stakes for Pennsylvania Breds after a stalking trip and winning a neck over the 2nd place finisher for trainer Michael Pino and owner Smart Angle LLP.

8/25/21
Three year old son of Weigeila Pennsylvania Bred, Beren(Weigeila out of Silmaril, by Diamond) wins the Parx Summer Sprint Stakes going 6 furlongs with jockey Frankie Pennington drawing off the field for trainer Butch Reid, Jr. for owners/breeders St. Omer's Farm and Christopher Feifarek.

PA Bred Leader of the Band(Bandbox out of Catsuit, by Sir Cat) and jockey Frankie Pennington circle the field in a strong closing finish to place in the $150,000 Cathryn Sophia Stakes going 1 mile & 70 yards for trainer John Servis and owner/breeder SMD Limited. The Cathryn Sophia Stakes serves as the main prep for the $1,000,000 PA Cotillion(G1), which will be run on Saturday, September 25th at Parx Racing.

The King Cheek(Laoban out of Selfie, by War Chant) and jockey Ruben Silvera came in to show after Brad Cox trained Fulsome in the $300,000 Grade 3 Smarty Jones Stakes going 1 & 1/16th miles for trainer Jame Ness, owners Morris Kernan, Jr and Jagger, Inc.

Fulsome finishing in the $300,000 G3 Smarty Jones Stakes

Catch PTHA Peeks with Dani Gibson during Parx Live Racing! Monday thru Wednesday at www.patha.org

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SCTOBA

South Carolina

Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021

Racing Across the Nation

Del Mar and Saratoga are two of the premiere meets every year in July and August. Stakes races at these venues often attract Grade 1 caliber horses in lesser graded stakes. South Carolina training center graduates captured stakes at Del Mar and Saratoga along with winning stakes at Colonial Downs, Monmouth Park and Mountaineer between July 24 and Aug. 9.

On July 24, Madone ran the best race of her career capturing the San Clemente-G2 at Del Mar. Madone had only one beat early on, dropping back 11 lengths off the lead. She came five-wide into the stretch and in a determined drive, crossed the finish line a half length in front. She has passed through the hands of Cary Frommer and Kip Elser when in South Carolina. Madone has won five of nine lifetime starts.

Eons, owned by South Carolina native Mark Grier, won his third stakes capturing the Buckland at Colonial Downs July 26. Eons trailed the field the opening half mile before launching his bid. Six-wide at the top of the stretch, he came flying home and got up in the final strides to win by a head. This 5-year-old set a new course record covering the 1⅛ miles over the inner turf at Colonial Downs in 1:48.14. Eons went through the breaking process in Aiken with Brad Stauffer and Ron Stevens.

Leader of the Band overcame a troubled start and some tight quarters before finding her best stride at the eighth-pole and flying home to finish 2 lengths in front in the Monmouth Oaks-G3 July 31. Leader of the Band learned her early lessons at Randy and Kala Rentz's training center in Ehrhardt, S.C.

Art Collector proved best in the Alydar Stakes at Saratoga Aug. 6. A graduate of Travis Durr's Webb Carroll Training Center, Art Collector broke on top and never looked back, finishing 1½ lengths clear of the field. This was Art Collector's third stakes triumph and sixth career victory.

Logical Myth also recorded his third stakes victory in the West Virginia House of Delegates Speaker's Cup Stakes at Mountaineer Casino Racetrack and Resort Aug. 7. Logical Myth settled into fourth for the opening 6 furlongs before engaging the leaders at the eighth-pole. He battled to the wire and proved best by a neck. Logical Myth is a product of Franklin "Goree" Smith's program at the Elloree Training Center.

On Aug. 9, Princess Theorem was dominant in the Van Clief Stakes at Colonial Downs. Princess Theorem was in no hurry early on while running sixth. She gradually moved forward and took control inside the eighth-pole, surging to the wire and drawing clear by 1¾ lengths. She also went through the breaking process at Durr's Webb Carroll Training Center.

Dr. Blarney, a horse from yesteryear

Dr. Blarney, who has spent time under the care of Travis Durr (Webb Carroll Training Center) and Goree Smith (Elloree Training Center) during his career, has won a remarkable 24 times. He has entered the winner's circle 15 times following stakes races. He has won the Last Dance Stakes, held at both Suffolk Downs and Fort Erie, four times, and the Rise Jim Stakes, also held at Suffolk Downs and Fort Erie, a total of four times. Dr. Blarney has lifetime earnings of $721,578.

From the desk of. . .

. . . The Elloree Training Center reports their 2-year-old graduate, Bandfromthebar, won first time out at Colonial Downs Aug. 3. Goree Smith's stallion, Straight Talking, sired recent SC-bred winners Telling Secrets and Peculiarity

. . . The Webb Carroll Training Center reports 2-year-old graduates Daufuskie Island and Sue Ellen Mishkin won their debuts at Saratoga and 2-year-old Majestic d'Oro was victorious in her racing debut at Indiana Grand

. . . Conagher, purchased by Bobby, Debby and Jason McCutchen as a yearling and now a 2-year-old, and broke at their McCutchen Training Center in Kingstree, has recorded a win, two seconds and a third in four lifetime starts

. . . Another 2-year-old debut winner is Electrostatic, who underwent the breaking process in Aiken with Brad Stauffer and Ron Stevens

. . . While the 2021 Aiken Fall Steeplechase will not be held, jump racing will return in 2022 with the Aiken Spring Steeplechase March 26.

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Equine Study Committee hearing held in Aiken

The second meeting of the South Carolina Equine Industry Support Measures Study Committee was held Aug. 24 in Aiken. The purpose of the committee is to study the equine industry in South Carolina. Chairman Russell Ott believes the equine industry is a sleeping giant.

Public testimony was presented by invited speakers. John Carmichael, the former warden of the Wateree River Correctional Facility, stated the equine program there fits with what they are trying to do with young people who have no sense of accomplishment. He said, "the outside of a horse is good for the inside of a man."

James Banks, who has previously spent time in the prison system, believes the equine industry provides a great opportunity for former inmates because horses give people a sense of responsibility.

Doug Berry, a South Carolina veterinarian, commented the all-weather environment in our state is good for the horse. We need to focus on getting a new generation of horsemen. On the Thoroughbred front, South Carolina is losing ground to other states that have incentives for training and breeding.

This committee will provide a report to the state legislature in February 2022.

SOUTH CAROLINA-TRAINED WINNERS

Horse	*Training Center*	*Date*	*Track*	*Type of Race*
Dr. Blarney	Elloree Tng Ctr/Webb Carroll Tng Ctr	8/19/21	Delaware Park	Allowance
Majestic d'Oro	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/19/21	Indiana Grand	Maiden Special Weight
Macadoooo Kid	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/19/21	Thistledown	Allowance
Chelsea Wall	Rentz Training Center	8/18/21	Colonial Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Known Quantity	Rentz Training Center	8/18/21	Penn National	Allowance
Double Vision	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/18/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Summerfest	Rentz Training Center	8/17/21	Presque Isle Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Maybe Later	Elloree Training Center	8/16/21	Colonial Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Continuation	McCutchen Training Center	8/16/21	Colonial Downs	Allowance
Throwing Stones	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/16/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Rough Passage	Kirkwood Stables	8/15/21	Sweetwater Downs	Allowance
Depository	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/14/21	Pimlico	Allowance
Sue Ellen Mishkin	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/13/21	Saratoga	Maiden Special Weight
Navy Sword	Shuler Stables	8/13/21	Charles Town	Allowance
Daufuskie Island	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/12/21	Saratoga	Maiden Special Weight
Hungarian Princess	Elloree Training Center	8/10/21	Indiana Grand	Allowance
Boss Man	Arch Kingsley	8/9/21	Colonial Downs	Allowance
Party At Page's	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/9/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
PRINCESS THEOREM	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/9/21	Colonial Downs	Van Clief S
Reason to Soar	Kirkwood Stables	8/8/21	Louisiana Downs	Allowance
Bee Wings	Custom Care - D. Freyer	8/7/21	Mountaineer	Allowance
Ruse	Wes Carter	8/7/21	Saratoga	Maiden Special Weight
LOGICAL MYTH	Elloree Training Center	8/7/21	Mountaineer	WV House of Del. Speaker's Cup S
Shape of You	McCutchen Training Center	8/6/21	Ellis Park	Starter Allowance
ART COLLECTOR	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/6/21	Saratoga	Alydar S
We The Clouds	Custom Care - D. Freyer	8/5/21	Presque Isle Downs	Allowance
Mr. Kringle	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/5/21	Saratoga	Starter Allowance
Quality Stones	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/4/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Bess	Elloree Training Center	8/4/21	Delaware Park	Allowance
Because of Susan	Rentz Training Center	8/4/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Fitzpatrick	Webb Carroll Training Center	8/4/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
One Last Trial	Custom Care - D. Freyer	8/1/21	Pimlico	Allowance
Touch of Class	Elloree Training Center	7/31/21	Ellis Park	Maiden Special Weight
LEADER OF THE BAND	Rentz Training Center	7/31/21	Monmouth Park	Monmouth Oaks-G3
Sky Temple	Kirkwood Stables	7/30/21	Belterra Park	Maiden Special Weight
Onerollofthedice	Custom Care - D. Freyer	7/30/21	Evangeline Downs	Allowance
Petition Prayer	Elloree Training Center	7/30/21	Pimlico	Maiden Special Weight
Gianna's Gift	Elloree Training Center	7/30/21	Ellis Park	Allowance
My My Girl	Elloree Training Center	7/30/21	Pimlico	Allowance
Love Enough	Webb Carroll Training Center	7/30/21	Belterra Park	Allowance
Kitchen Fire	Custom Care - D. Freyer	7/29/21	Belterra Park	Allowance
Holy Breeze	Webb Carroll Training Center	7/28/21	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
Crossthebay	Aiken - Poplar Place	7/28/21	Mountaineer	Allowance
Electrostatic	Aiken - Legacy Stable	7/28/21	Colonial Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Holmdel Park	Custom Care - D. Freyer	7/27/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Mr. Surabachi	Rentz Training Center	7/27/21	Parx Racing	Allowance
Made to Hustle	Rentz Training Center	7/27/21	Penn National	Maiden Special Weight
Sting Like Abby	Aiken - Cary Frommer	7/27/21	Indiana Grand	Allowance
Conagher	McCutchen Training Center	7/26/21	Colonial Downs	Maiden Special Weight
Harrison Knows	Rentz Training Center	7/26/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance
Double Vision	Webb Carroll Training Center	7/26/21	Finger Lakes	Maiden Special Weight
EONS	Aiken-Legacy Stable	7/26/21	Colonial Downs	Buckland S
Money in the Bank	McCutchen Training Center	7/25/21	Saratoga	Allowance
Closer Look	Webb Carroll Training Center	7/25/21	Pimlico	Allowance
Jolina	Aiken - Tony Mitchell	7/25/21	Arlington Park	Allowance
MADONE	Aiken - Cary Frommer/Kirkwood Stables	7/24/21	Del Mar	San Clemente S-G2
Pomtini	Webb Carroll Training Center	7/24/21	Monmouth Park	Maiden Special Weight
Maestria	Webb Carroll Training Center	7/24/21	Delaware Park	Maiden Special Weight
Luna Fortis	Aiken-Legacy Stable	7/24/21	Camarero	Allowance
Star of Night	Shuler Stables	7/23/21	Charles Town	Allowance
North Atlantic	Shuler Stables	7/23/21	Charles Town	Allowance
Sunday Inn	Rentz Training Center	7/21/21	Penn National	Allowance
Dr. Blarney	Elloree Tng Ctr/ Webb Carroll Tng Ctr	7/20/21	Finger Lakes	Allowance

VIRGINIA

Colonial Downs Completes Record Setting Meet

Highlighted by more than $10 million in purse distribution, a new all-time daily average handle, and wide participation from some of America's leading racing stables, jockeys and trainers, Colonial Downs concluded its 2021 record-setting meeting in a spectacularly successful fashion.

Fans were welcomed back to the track for a 21-day Virginia-festive racing program. The track expanded its meet to seven weeks and, in a scheduling departure from earlier years, conducted racing Monday through Wednesday afternoons instead of evening programs later in the week.

Incentivized by a minimum daily purse structure of $521,676, powerhouse stables like Godolphin and Juddmonte, and renowned trainers like Shug McGaughey, Graham Motion, Brad Cox and Steve Asmussen, and jockeys Jose Ortiz and Manny Franco, competed for $10,441,300 in total purses.

As further proof of Colonial's progress in the Mid-Atlantic region, a total of 725 horses were stabled on the grounds. In addition to those based in Virginia, horsemen participating in the meeting came from Kentucky, New York, New Jersey, Florida, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

In all, total handle for the 21-days was $46,867,078, good for a record average daily handle of $2,231,765. The 2019 meet --- which was 15 days over five weeks --- produced an average handle of $1,166,666, for a more that 91% increase.

"It is so gratifying to see the continued revival of Virginia racing as we mark new all-time handle heights," said John Marshall, Colonial Downs Group Executive Vice President, Operations. "We have held true to our promise of building Colonial Downs into one of the country's elite boutique meets. We thank our horsemen, fans and team for doing their part in making it so."

The Colonial racing program generated a total of 1,713 starters for the 205 races conducted this year, for an average of 8.36 runners per race. A total of 148 races were contested over Colonial's signature Secretariat Turf Course. A total of 1,325 horses competed over turf, an average of 8.85 starters per race; and 388 horses participated in 57 dirt races for an average of 6.81 per race.

The 2021 meeting was also conducted under the strictest safety and security protocols. These practices played a major role resulting in zero racing or equine fatalities and placed Colonial Downs among the country's best on The Jockey Club's Equine Industry Database (EID).

Scaling the Heights on Virginia Derby Day

Colonial's record setting season finished on a high note with ten stakes over the final two race days.

The $250,000 New Kent County Virginia Derby (G3) card on Tuesday (Aug. 31) established a new all-sources handle single-day record of $4,890,704 million. The tally was 10% higher than the previous best of $4.4 million which was set on Virginia Derby Day 2008 when star attraction Gio Ponti won the featured event.

Trainer Graham Motion, who won the 2019 Virginia Derby with English Bee, had a memorable day in the stake's 18th running. Motion saddled Madaket Stables' 3-year-old Wootton Asset to a three-quarters of a length victory over Slicked Back, giving him two straight Derby triumphs (the race was not held in 2020). Motion also won the $150,000 TAA Old Nelson Stakes that day with Tuned and finished second in the $150,000 Woodford Reserve Virginia Oaks with Invincible Gal.

Virginia-Bred/Sired Stakes Day Recap

The September 1 closing card --- highlighted by five $100,000 stakes for Virginia-bred/sired horses --- produced the largest non-Derby Day all sources handle ever: $3,421,338.

Ed & Susie Orr's Virginia-bred Boldor reached the winners in the Punch Line Stakes, his third stakes win of 2021. The 5-year-old Munnings gelding scored earlier this year in the Sams Town and King Cotton Stakes at Delta Downs and Oaklawn respectively. The Steve Asmussen trainee pushed his lifetime bankroll to $426,517 from 20 career starts. The winner was bred by Carlos Moore and Gillian Gordon-Moore.

Reiley McDonald's Passion Play earned a 1 1/2 length win over American Dubai --- who was making his first Virginia start in 36 outings --- in the one mile Edward P. Evans Stakes. It was the 5-year-old Hold Me Back gelding's second stakes win at the Colonial meet. The Mary Eppler trainee was ridden by Horacio Karamanos who also directed Passion Play's victory in the Bert Allen Stakes. The winner, with a bankroll of $257,947, was bred by Mr. & Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin III.

Country Life Farm's Virginia Beach, another Iselin-bred, collected a 1 1/2 length triumph over Tea In China in the Camptown Stakes. A winner of the M. Tyson Gilpin Stakes last fall, the 4-year-old Twirling Candy filly earned her fourth career victory for trainer Michael Trombetta. Virginia Beach was ridden by Julian Pimentel.

Winchester Place Thoroughbreds, LLC's Urban Fairytale broke through after a trio of consecutive third place finishes to win the Brookmeade Stakes as betting favorite. Chris Landeros rode the 4-year-old daughter of Distorted Humor for trainer Ian Wilkes. The winner was bred by Audley Farm Equine who also bred the winner of the Jamestown Stakes. That race, for 2-year-olds, was captured by D. Hatman Thoroughbreds and Kingdom Bloodstock Inc.'s Determined Kingdom who won by 2 3/4 lengths. The Animal Kingdom gelding is trained by Phil Schoenthal and was ridden by Victor Rosales.

Return of the MATCH Series

Among other meet highlights was the return of the Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred Championship (MATCH) series to Colonial Downs for the first time since 2001. Four $100,000 stakes were contested Aug. 23 over Colonial's 1 1/4 miles dirt oval. By the end of the afternoon, three new track records were established. Just Might's 1:07.38 at 6 furlongs in the Chesapeake Stakes, Cheetara's 1:20.61 at 7 furlongs in the Seeking the Pearl Stakes, and Saracosa's 1:39.72 at 1 1/16th miles in the Love Sign Stakes all shattered previous dirt marks.

Colonial hosted two non-betting steeplechase races every Monday before the pari-mutuel races began --- for a total of 12 in all. Trainer Neil Morris, who is based at the Middleburg Training Center, won four of those with Choo Choo, Ritzy A.P., Vincent Van Gogo, and Junonia. The Jump signature race was the Aug. 9, $75,000 Randolph D. Rouse Stakes, won by Theodore Gregory's Screen Image.

Karamonos and Rocco Tie for Most Jockey Wins

Competition for leading jockey, trainer and owner titles was extremely keen. In the battle for leading jockey, Horacio Karamanos and Joe Rocco Jr. finished in a tie with 20 wins apiece. Mychel Sanchez was third with 12 wins. Karamanos was the leading money earning jockey --- horses he rode earned $687,700.

Hamilton Smith led all trainers with 10 wins. Heading into the September 1 finale, Smith was tied with Michelle Lovell --- a Kentucky based trainer competing at Colonial for the first time --- with 9 wins each. Smith scored in the first race with All Threes to gain the one-win advantage which he maintained. Michael Trombetta, who was third with 8 wins, was the leading money earning trainer with $491,650.

Larry Johnson, owner of Legacy Farm in Bluemont, Virginia, was the leading owner with 6 wins, beating PTK, LLC who had 5. Johnson scored with Mr. Jefferson, Spun Glass, Ziap Line To Heaven, Street Copper, Never Enough Time, and Street Silence. David Ross (Colonial's all-time leading owner) had 4 as did CM Thoroughbreds and GOP Racing Stable.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

Caption 1 - Boldor and jockey Feargal Lynch were best in the $100,000 Punch Line Stakes on September 1. (Coady Photography)

Caption 2 - Just Might's tight win in the Chesapeake Stakes produced one of three new dirt track records in the MATCH Series event. (Coady Photography)

Virginia Thoroughbred Association

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Virginia Breeders Fund

West Virginia
THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Newsletter October 2021

Curiosity, Precocity and Velocity

If you talk to handicappers/gamblers they swear it's their economic impact that controls the game.

Most Thoroughbred owners would refute that statement and verbalize their financial relationship to the business being of paramount importance, but true champions of the industry realize breeders are the most critical element to cultivate and sustain longevity. Thus every year, with *Daily Racing Form* in hand, enthusiasts attempt to decipher the DNA codes intrinsic to pedigree, as the excitement mounts for the beginning of the 2-year-old season. Knowing which trainers have their charges cranked-up for debuts, uncovering that runner with an attribute for speed, and weighing the accuracy of morning workouts all factor in to one of the prime conjectures of our sport.

The first baby race of the year had it's normal accompaniment of trainers, McKee, Sterling, Casey (father and son), and while the eventual winner was no surprise (third choice in the wagering), the victorious sire for owner, trainer, breeder John McKee was a tad shocking.

Cousin Winnie, a son of Firing Line out of Aunt Winnie (Ire), wrangled the early advantage away from rivals by bravely squirming through tight quarters and held her West Virginia rivals safe in the run to the wire. Unlike the preponderance of Beau Ridge Farm runners that call Fiber Sonde their daddy, Cousin Winnie hails from a gifted runner who earned just a shade under $1 million and whose greatest accomplishment was a second place effort in the Kentucky Derby.

Thursday, July 8, John A. Casey rolled out the latest creation off his family's productive assembly line, Fancy Her Up, and the compact filly by Juba out of Fancy Up, by Smoke Glacken, didn't disappoint her robust backing. Hammered down to 3-2 favoritism, the first time starter left the gate like shot out of a cannon, immediately established a 5-length advantage and cruised home as much the best. Final time for the 4½ furlongs for the gray/roan filly was an outstanding 52.33 seconds.

The filly's dam Fancy Up was a winner of nine of 28 starts, and spent much of her career competing for breeder and South Carolina native Henry Carroll. Juba stands at Taylor Mountain Farm and recently watched his son Nocashrefunds dominate an allowance field for owner Shade Tree Farm LLC. A winner in restricted company, Fancy Her Up didn't fare so well in her next outing, stakes company at Colonial Downs, but as Dorothy in the *Wizard of Oz* said, "There's no place like home."

Under normal circumstances, the initial 2-year-old races don't feature horses that have racing experience, let alone one that has competed in multiple jurisdictions. On Thursday, July 16, Baytown Warrior shipped in having tried Keeneland, Churchill Downs, Belmont Park and Ellis Park on his busy East Coast tour.

The son of First Samurai, out of Streetheart (by Street Sense), found racing against lesser competition desirable. Soundly bumped early from his inside post, he aggressively bullied his way to the front and eagerly maintained his advantage throughout the lane. The value purchase by McEntee Farm ($1,500 Keeneland yearling sale) authenticated his local commanding score, by hitting the road and finishing a solid third in the Tyro Stakes at Monmouth Park.

As horsemen continue to get more innovative with names, one of my personal favorites, O K Smarty Pants, strolled home effortlessly on Thursday, July 23.

Every year it seems owner, trainer, breeder Mike Sterling unveils a talented project from a very limited band of players. The hardy bay filly by Smarty Jones out of Over You was rudely treated in her debut, as noted in the Equibase charts, "shut off

and clipped heels leaving the chute and lacked room."

In her second effort, O K Smarty Pants was comfortable throughout and finished up with plenty left in the tank. Patience is a hallmark of her trainer, but I'm sure we'll find out in the next few months if this noteworthy West Virginia-bred is an enigma or truly authentic, as we enter our championship time of the year.

Strong Fiber made substantial use of his lone career effort, where he finished third, to come back and wire the field in the first race on Friday, June 29. The son of Fiber Sonde exhibited his father's propensity for speed and fortitude to repel runner-up Talking Teddy.

Champion West Virginia sire in 2020, Fiber Sonde continues to be a productive influence in the breeding shed and genetically enhance his racing progeny. Owned, trained and bred by octogenarian John McKee, Strong Fiber is another in a long line of Beau Ridge Farm (2020 West Virginia Farm of the Year) runners that possess startling uniformity of accomplishment.

Charting a horse's value is especially critical in 2-year-old races, where PPs are often an unknown commodity. Handicappers frequently use toteboard odds as their guide for success. On Friday night, Aug. 13, all eyes, in the paddock, were focused on a well-mannered youngster for leading conditioner Jeff Runco.

Breaking from post seven, Change the World, a daughter of Overanalyze and Saturday Nthe Park, left the gate in good order but appeared slightly bewildered when pressured on both sides for the lead. After a few indecisive strides, the handsome filly gathered herself and accelerated with a purpose.

Swinging wide turning into the stretch, Change the World shrugged off rivals with relative ease and set sail for the wire like an express train leaving Grand Central station.

The winner is owned and bred by Coleswood Farm and gives one the impression she will not be distance challenged, while exhibiting multiple characteristics of a good horse.

Sunday, Aug. 22 was used to make-up a previously canceled card and the third race that humid evening was worth the price of admission. Run to Daylight, a daughter of Runhappy out of Daylight's Coming, by Stormy Atlantic, opened up at odds of 1-5, suggesting her series of lively morning trials were no fluke.

Momentarily confronted early, the Jeff Runco trainee assumed full command by the quarter pole and handily prevailed for owner David Raim. Bred in West Virginia by James Miller, this 2-year-old is a stunning illustration of her sire's sprinting prowess.

The unpredictability of the horse racing game is formidable at times, but it appears veteran conditioner Jeff Runco is primed for a successful fall campaign in the juvenile filly division.

Benefits of Owning a WV-Bred and/or -Sired racehorse

Some of the best incentives in the nation:

- A minimum of three accredited races are written every day at Charles Town exclusively for registered WV-bred and/or -sired horses.
- West Virginia has the only program in the country that permits horses to win state-bred races that do not count against the horse's lifetime open conditions.
- The WV Thoroughbred Development Fund distributes almost $5 million to breeders, owners, and stallion owners of accredited WV-bred and/or -sired horses based the horse's annual earnings at Charles Town and Mountaineer Park racetracks.
- The West Virginia Breeders Classics pays out almost $1 million in purses for WV-bred and/or -sired horses. It is held annually on the second Saturday in October.
- $800,000 in purses are allocated for up to 16 WV accredited stakes races during the year.
- Supplemental Purse Awards of up to 10% of the winner's share of the purse to the owner, breeder, and/or sire owner of the accredited WV-bred and/or -sired winner.
- West Virginia offers year-round racing with approximately 300 race days per year.

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

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Chasing
Brought to you by the Temple Gwathmey Steeplechase Foundation

Jerry Fishback – Hall of Fame legend traces his steeplechase roots

'Best of the best' – DRF's Joe Hirsch on top jock

By Betsy Burke Parker

Flash back to the 1960s, what many consider steeplechasing's "golden age." Purses were high, major tracks welcomed the jumpers and hunt meets jammed spring and fall weekends from Kentucky to New York. Festive crowds crowded grandstands and hillsides, horses were heroes, jockeys were gladiators, and the sport enjoyed enduring popularity.

Jerry Fishback remembers like it was yesterday.

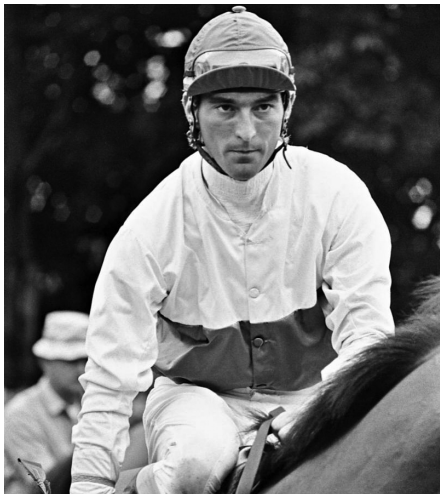
"Those were heady times," says the eventual Hall of Fame member and winner of 301 races over 22 years on the circuit. "I'd grown up idolizing the top riders of the day – Joe Aitcheson, Paddy Smithwick." He calls the elite professional jockey colony the rock stars of the racing world. "I wanted to be like them."

It was a wild ride, going from the back field at a Warrenton, Virginia pony club school to the hallowed Racing Hall of Fame in Saratoga, New York. Including point-to-points and hunt meet flat races, Fishback rode nearly 1,400 races worth nearly $1.5 million. "Those were good times," he says.

The Starting Line

Born in Warrenton, Virginia in 1947, Fishback started out with the local pony club, but swapped allegiance to racing and rode his first point-to-point in 1964. He rode his first National Steeplechase Association winner in 1965, Right Tag at the old Deep Run meet in Richmond.

Fishback swiftly rose the ranks, NSA champion in 1971, 1973, 1974, 1975 and 1977.



Jerry Fishback at the Fair Hill Races in the 1970s. *@Douglas Lees*

Hall of Fame trainer Jonathan Sheppard, who had first-call on Fishback 1973-1979, says Fishback was "a natural. He had this tremendous competitive spirit," Sheppard recalls. "That coupled well with the natural (riding and racing) talent. But, more than that, he took it rather seriously. He was always quite well prepared, and he'd have a clear view of how he thought a race would unfold. He studied the form, and he had a plan."

Fishback was a bit of a hot-head, fighting with the other riders, and occasionally being called up for dubious tactics in the heat of battle, but he mostly stayed to himself, piling up the wins from all corners of the circuit, spring, summer and fall.

Together, Sheppard and Fishback pretty much won everything on the circuit after formally joining forces in '73. They partnered to win the Aug. 3, 1979 Lovely Night at Saratoga with two-time Eclipse champ Cafe Prince. It was one of Fishback's all-time favorite horses at his all-time favorite track.

But it was an unsustainable model, Sheppard recalls.

Abruptly, right there in the winner's circle, Fishback called it quits.

Sheppard says he was "disappointed" when Fishback took off that day. "This had happened before," Sheppard adds, "him saying 'he's done with racing.'

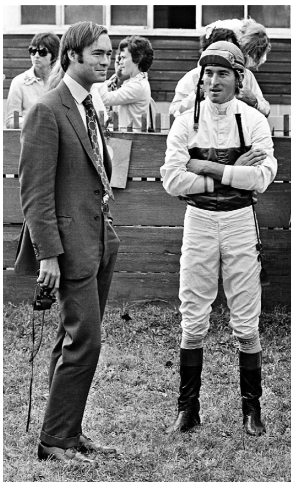
"But this time, he didn't come back." Sheppard figures there were likely some unseen problems, deeper than the fiery, surface competitiveness, that the rider had to face. "He had some (struggles)," he adds, one of which, Sheppard thinks, was an ongoing battle with weight. "I was sorry to see him go – he was a superb rider. But he had to get himself straightened out."

Away four and a half years, Fishback mounted a 1984 comeback, and it was fitting that Sheppard was the one to give Fishback his first ride: the skilled reinsman partnered with Bill Pape's Flatterer to win the April 7, 1984 Atlanta Cup, wiring the field in the circuit's first important handicap to tee up Flatterer's second championship season.

"It looked like he'd never been away," Sheppard says.

Fishback and Sheppard teamed for three more seasons, capturing everything from the Brook at Belmont to a pair of allowances with Eskimo Point to cap the rider's career in 1987.

1977 Essex Race Meeting, Cafe Prince (Jerry Fishback, up, left) won for Augustin Stables and trainer Jonathan Sheppard. *©Douglas Lees*



George Strawbridge, owner of Augustin Stables, in the Fair Hill Races paddock in the 1970s with Jerry Fishback. *©Douglas Lees*

"It felt like the appropriate time," Fishback told the Daily Racing Form's Joe Hirsch. "I'm still in one piece, I have plans for the future and I retired on a winning note. Some people go to the well too many times. I didn't want to be in that position when I quit."

Hirsch called Fishback "the best of the best," and nominated Fishback to the National Museum of Racing's Hall of Fame in 1992.

Today, Fishback lives near Leesburg, Virginia. He's been foxhunting the past few years.

"It was a heckuva ride," Fishback says of the glory days of his career. He remembers the ups as well as the downs, the twists and turns that carried him from learning to jump with his little white knuckles gripping a little saddle all the way to racing's top honor, the Hall of Fame.

Jerry Fishback on going from pony kid to steeplechasing elite:

"I grew up riding with the local Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club. I learned to to jump in a paddock behind Ann Montgomery's barn, in an exercise saddle. I remember reaching down with both hands and holding onto the front of that little saddle. I'll never forget it.

I was riding at Dr. Howard's farm, and there was a cross-country course behind the house. We used to line those ponies up and race over the course, again and again.

Somebody ratted to Mrs. Howard we were racing, and she set it up to catch us. She told us one day she was going into town, but she actually stayed up at the barn and watched us out of the shadows.

I got kicked out, but … I already could tell racing was more fun than showing.

The summer before my senior year, Mrs. Randolph (Theo, longtime Piedmont Foxhounds joint-master and steeplechase owner-breeder) sent me to work for Mikey Smithwick.

We spent the summer at the Phipps farm (on Long Island's north shore at Old Westbury.) We'd drive to Belmont Park every morning to work the horses, and there were these massive, natural hedges for schooling all over the estate in the afternoons.

No kid was never so glad to go back to school (to finish at Fauquier High in Warrenton, Virginia.) Helluva summer, but such hard work.

Jerry Fishback on the best horse(s) he ever rode:

"(Four-time Eclipse champion) **Flatterer** was so talented, so honest – he'd give you everything he had, every time.

I had this little riding crop – like a show jumper's bat, that someone made for me in Mr. Pape's colors, wrapped in blue and white. I called it my "Flatterer stick" – he ran and jumped his heart out for you. You didn't need to touch him.

(Flatterer raced in the French Champion Hurdle in 1986 -- second with English jockey Richard Dunwoody, then Fishback rode Flatterer to place in the 1987 English Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham.)

(Two-time Eclipse champ) **Cafe Prince** was gorgeous – big, dark, bold. He was a terrific jumper, and he ran over the bigger fences there at Rolling Rock and Camden. He was a horse for the times.

Jerry Fishback on riding with – and arguing with – his idol:

"**Joe Aitcheson**, hands down, was my idol. I worked for his dad Leiter, in Maryland, and he gave me one of my first big wins (eventual Hall of Fame champion Tuscalee in the Roby at Middleburg Spring.)

I remember we had plenty of hot-headed exchanges – we were buddies, but Joe was obsessed with being leading rider (he won the title seven times.) We got into it one day at Belmont Park. That wasn't a great idea on my part, because Joe was a boxer in his youth and in the Navy. He could throw a punch.

He wasn't gonna give me a break. He didn't give anybody any breaks.

Jerry Fishback on dual retirements:

"I won two races at Saratoga that summer (1979), but I just walked out after winning the Lovely Night with Cafe Prince.

I had a place in Camden (South Carolina), so I went down there and ran a car dealership and broke yearlings.

I did miss racing, though, and … I came back in '84, mostly to ride Flatterer. I ended up riding three more seasons. My last ride was in the Colonial Cup – third on Statesmanship.

The next spring I was riding out for (flat trainer) Frank Whiteley to get legged up (for the 1988 season.)

Something was different – I'd get off a horse and be exhausted. I'd have to sit on a bench and get my strength before I could get on another horse.

I went to the doctor and got some tests. Turns out, I had Epstein Barr (a chronic viral disease.) It was time to retire, for real this time.

Remembering Bill Lickle

©Douglas Lees

TGSF is saddened by the passing of steeplechase legend Bill Lickle. See TGSteeplechase-Foundation.org for the article we wrote about him in April of 2020.

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Looking Back

10 years ago

■ The 100-year-old history of Laurel Park was celebrated. The track held its first race meet Oct. 2, 1911. "Born during a dark period in racing annuals, Laurel Park has experienced youthful exuberance, footloose and exciting matches, classic international elegance and graceful maturity–a journey through time to rival any literary epic."

From the early days that saw owner James Butler and promoter and manager Matt Winn turn Laurel into a battleground for racing's greatest performers, to the vision of John Schapiro to put Laurel on the world map, to the optimism and inventiveness created by Frank De Francis, Laurel made its mark on the racing landscape. Longtime racing writer and historian Joe Kelly shared a few of his memories that included German trainer Adrian von Borcke, Schapiro and pumpkin pies, Mickey Rooney making commercials to promote the track, and Soviet jockey Nikolai Nasibov–all part of the track's remarkable history.

■ A Hall of Fame for industry leaders was proposed in an editorial by Cricket Goodall, who noted the first inductees should include John Schapiro. The man was behind the Washington, D.C., International–"imagined it, made it happen, fostered and promoted it until it became the stuff of legend." The International was a one-of-a-kind race that was an inspiration, and ultimately a template, for the Breeders' Cup.

Two years later the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame initiated the Pillars of the Turf to honor individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to Thoroughbred racing in a leadership or pioneering capacity at the highest national level. While numerous track operators have been named, Schapiro has yet to be included.

■ Monmouth's Haskell Day card was a stakes bonanza, and Edward P. Evans' homebred filly Quiet Giant was one of the most impressive winners when taking the Lady's Secret Stakes by nearly 7 lengths. Trained by Todd Pletcher, the Virginia-bred daughter of Giant's Causeway and half-sister to Horse of the Year Saint Liam recorded her third stakes win of the year.

In her next start, her last, she captured the Grade 2 Molly Pitcher by 5 widening lengths before being sold that November at the Evans' dispersal for $3 million as a broodmare prospect. She was bred the next year to Candy Ride (Arg), the resulting foal being Gun Runner, 2017 Horse of the Year, six-time Grade 1 winner and earner of nearly $16 million.

■ Hall of Fame trainer Carl Hanford passed away at his Delaware home at the age of 95. A former jockey from a famous family of riders–his brother Ira "Babe" Hanford won the Kentucky Derby as an apprentice aboard Max Hirsch-trained Bold Venture–Carl turned to training in the late 1930s and had a top filly named La Corredora in the 1950s, before being asked by Allaire duPont to be the personal trainer for her Bohemia Stable. He began working with one of duPont's homebreds, 3-year-old Kelso, in 1960. Kelso was named Horse of the Year five times, and retired as the world's leading earner with $1,977,896 after winning 39 of 63 starts, including 31 stakes. He was inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame in 1967, the year after his retirement. Hanford said of his own induction into the Hall of Fame, "I'm here because of one horse and one horse only."

50 years ago

■ John Jacobs, 37-year-old son of the late Hirsch Jacobs, revealed that the family would retain and expand Stymie Manor Farm in Monkton, Md., with construction of a six-stall stallion barn the first priority.

The farm had been owned by the (Isidor) Bieber-Jacobs partnership since 1946 and was named by Hirsch Jacobs for his great racehorse Stymie, who earned $918,485 to retire as the world's leading money-winning race horse. Foaled in 1941, Stymie was claimed by Jacobs for $1,500 as a 2-year-old.

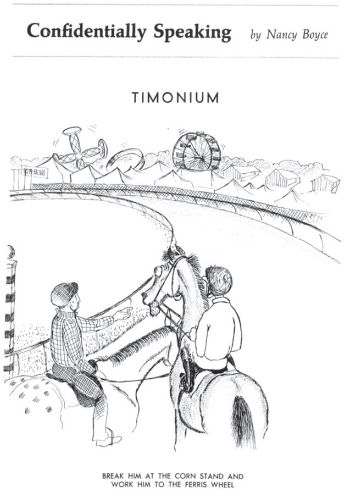
Staying on as farm manager was Bill Albright, who had been appointed the top position by Hirsch Jacobs late in the 1950s.

Three stallions were set to stand the upcoming season, led by Wise Exchange, whose first foals were weanlings.

■ With a $26,000 Royal Levee filly topping the auction, the 11th annual Eastern Fall Sale established a new record high average of $5,438 at Timonium. Not threatened was the individual record price of $45,000 (set in 1967 for a Native Dancer colt consigned by Edgar M. Lucas), but a new high was achieved in number sold for $20,000 or more.

The sale's biggest consignor in gross volume was E.P. Taylor's Windfields Farm. Marking his debut as an Eastern Fall consigner, Taylor sold seven yearlings for a total of $80,500 at an average price of $11,500. All of the Windfields Farm horses went into the ring with previously announced reserve bids. When buyers failed to make an initial bid equal to the announced reserve, the yearling was led from the ring as unsold. Eight of the 15 consigned by Windfields were not sold.

The highest price gained for a Windfields offering was a filly by Northern Dancer out of *Framed, by *Ribot, purchased for $25,000 by Eugene Mori, the president of Garden State Park.



■ The Maryland General Assembly's Subcommittee on New Revenue Sources drafted a proposed bill covering its recommendations on Off-Track Betting. If passed, it would take effect July 1, 1972.

■ Maryland-bred juvenile standout Bee Bee Bee won twice in one week at Timonium and set a track record for 7 furlongs.

EQUI-PHOTO

Maryland-bred Smoke Glacken ranked as the top 2-year-old in the country after winning four straight, including Saratoga's Hopeful-G1.

25 years ago

■ Maryland-bred Smoke Glacken, based at Monmouth Park with trainer Henry L. Carroll, ranked as the top 2-year-old in the country after a four-race win streak that included Monmouth's Tyro and Grade 2 Sapling Stakes before shipping to Saratoga, where he romped by 9 lengths in the Grade 1 Hopeful. Flying through opening fractions of :21.74, :44.23 and 1:09.73, he came home in 1:23.63 for the 7 furlongs. Unfortunately sore shins stopped him after an off-the-board finish in Belmont's Grade 1 Futurity and he was put away for the year. Sold as a weanling by his breeder Perry Rosebrock for $14,700 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic December mixed sale, the Two Punch colt went through the ring as a yearling for $34,000 in Kentucky before Carroll purchased him for $65,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic May 2-year-old sale. Carroll then brought in partners Robert P. Levy, William Roberts and Alex Karkenny. The gray/roan colt earned $284,500 his juvenile season.

■ With her victory in Saratoga's Grade 1 John A. Morris Handicap, Maryland-bred filly Urbane surpassed $1 million in earnings in her 17th career start. The 4-year-old daughter of Maryland sire Citidancer, who had competed solely in stakes since breaking her maiden at 2, had won the Grade 3 Delaware Handicap in her previous start.

Racing for Jan, Mace and Samantha Siegel, who purchased her for $25,000 at the Fasig-Tipton Midlantic fall yearling sale, Urbane was a Maryland-bred champion at 2 and 3, competed regularly in Grade 1 company, which also included a win in the Ashland Stakes at Keeneland at 3, and raced coast-to-coast for California-based trainer Randy Bradshaw. She was bred by Frank Zureick and Violet Cleveland out of the Pleasant Colony mare Dumfries Pleasure.

■ Accomplished horseman Vincent A. "Vinnie" Moscarelli died unexpectantly while attending the races at Delaware Park in September. He was 66.

Only a few months before his death he and his wife Suzanne had relocated their Country Roads Farm from Charles Town, W.Va., to Chesapeake City in Maryland. The Moscarellis were involved with all phases of the Thoroughbred business, both for themselves and outside clients, standing stallions, preparing young horses and training a racing stable. Their most famous collaboration was with longtime partner, famed songwriter Burt Bacharach. Together they were responsible for the likes of Eclipse Award winner Heartlight No. One and millionaires Soul of the Matter and Afternoon Deelites, each bred and owned by Bacharach and foaled and raised by the Moscarellis.

NYRA

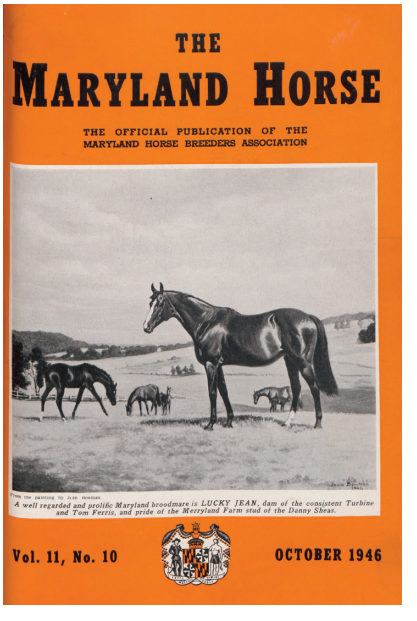
Urbane became racing's newest millionaire with her score in Saratoga's Grade 1 John A. Morris Handicap. Racing for Jan, Mace and Samantha Siegel, she was a Maryland-bred champion each of the three years she raced.

75 years ago

■ On a vote held in September, the directors of the Maryland Horsemen's Protective Association announced the membership vote was unanimous for a complete merger with the Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association. The addition of over 500 members of the MHPA to the national organization "would further strengthen horsemen's activities and just requests" including establishing a benevolent fund to care for needy and deserving horsemen and their employees; offering services of well-known and qualified attorneys; and having the prestige and power of a national organization numbering over 6,000 members.

■ A painting by Jean Bowman of Lucky Jean, "the pride of the Merryland Farm stud of the Danny Sheas" and dam of current top-class stakes winner Turbine and recent 2-year-old winner Tom Ferris, appeared on the cover of the magazine.

■ There was a bizarre occurrence at Timonium's 10-day meet—rumors of wholesale stimulating were rampant and as a result trainers were requesting pre-race tests. According to reports, of 56 horses tested, 11 showed presence of some form of stimulant. Don Reed reported: "The affair at Timonium was so unusual that both the 'pros' and the 'cons' in the stimulation discussions were puzzled. . . the sudden outbreak at Timonium was unexpected to say the least. Then the fact that trainers themselves feared for their horses and wanted the protection of pre-race tests was unusual."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A well regarded and prolific Maryland broodmare is LUCKY JEAN, dam of the consistent Turbine and Tom Ferris, and pride of the Merryland Farm stud of the Danny Sheas.
Vol. 11, No. 10
OCTOBER 1946

Horse Shoes: At Hanover Shoe Farms in 1957, private (and no doubt classic) vans were used to transport Standardbreds between widely scattered sections of the farm along Route 194 between Hanover and Littlestown, Pa.

Photojournalist A. Aubrey Bodine, who worked at the Baltimore *Sun* for 50 years–from 1920 until his death in 1970–captured many scenes of Maryland horses, farms and racing. He was regarded worldwide as one of the finest pictorialists of the 20th century. *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* features his work in Past Time.

Image #47-817 www.aaubreybodine.com
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Horses by these stallions, who were conceived in Maryland and fully nominated/certified to the Maryland Million program, are eligible to run in Maryland Million races.

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Alliance
Amerrico's Bullet
Baltimore Bob
Bandbox
Barbados
Blofeld
Bourbon Courage
Buffum
Bullsbay
Cage Fighter
Cal Nation
Cat Country
Cherokee's Boy
Crypto Star
Cuba
Dance With Ravens
Deputy Storm
Despite the Odds
Divining Rod
Domestic Dispute
Dortmund
E Dubai
Editorial
Elusive Charlie
Etched
Eternal Star
Fantasticat
Fleet Foot
Freedom Child
Friesan Fire
Gandhi
Gators N Bears
Giacomo
Go for Gin
Golden Lad
Goldmember
Great Notion
Greek Sun
Gyrfalcon (GB)
Hangover Kid
Heaven's Glory (JPN)
Holy Boss
Hunters Bay
Imagining
Ken Doll
Kendalls Bear
Kobe's Back
La Reine's Terms
Lion Hearted
Louis Quatorze
Love of Money
M Eighty
Madefromlucky
McKendree
Medallist
Modern Cowboy
Mojave Moon
Money's Star
Mosler
Mr. Shoplifter
Nicanor
No Armistice
Norumbega
Not Abroad
Not For Love
Oratory
Orientate
Outflanker
Parker's Storm Cat
Pass You Bye Bye
Petionville
Plan
Polish Payola
Port Vila (FR)
Private Scandal
Pulverizing
Purple Passion
Que Man
Redeemed
Regal American
Rock Slide
Rush Bay
Same Day Delivery
Scipion
Seeking Daylight
Seville (GER)
Showing Up
St Averil
Standing Room Only
Sticks and Bricks
Street Magician
Super Ninety Nine
Tomahawk Lake
Trial Prep
Tritap
Two Punch
Unbridled Mate
Unfettered
Wayne County (IRE)
Yarrow Brae

The above list shows nominated stallions with horses of racing age. Stallion must have been nominated for the specific year the horse was conceived. Some stallions listed here may not be eligible for every year.

PRE-ENTRY DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021

$150K Maryland Million Classic* Three-year-olds & up, 1⅛ mi.

$100K Maryland Million Turf* Three-year-olds & up, 1⅛ mi., turf

$100K Maryland Million Ladies* Fillies & mares, 3-year-olds & up, 1⅛ mi., turf

$100K Maryland Million Distaff* Fillies & mares, 3-year-olds & up, 7 fur.

$100K Maryland Million Sprint* 3-year-olds & up, 6 fur.

$100K Maryland Million Lassie* Fillies, 2-year-olds, 6 fur. No Lasix.

$100K Maryland Million Nursery* Two-year-olds, 6 fur. No Lasix.

$75K Maryland Million Turf Sprint* 3-year-olds & up, 5½ fur.

$50K Maryland Million and/or Registered Maryland-Bred Turf Starter Handicap 3-year-olds & up, who have started for a claiming price of $12,500 or less since October 25, 2020, 1⅛ mi., turf. First preference to Maryland Million-certified horses. This is a starter/stakes.

$50K Maryland Million and/or Registered Maryland-Bred Turf Distaff Starter Handicap Fillies & mares, 3-year-olds & up, who have started for a claiming price of $12,500 or less since October 25, 2020, 1⅛ mi., turf. First preference to Maryland Million-certified horses. This is a starter/stakes.

$40K Maryland Million and/or Registered Maryland-Bred Starter Handicap 3-year-olds & up, who have started for a claiming price of $8,000 or less since October 25, 2020, 7f. First preference to Maryland Million-certified horses. This is a starter/stakes.

$40K Maryland Million and/or Registered Maryland-Bred Distaff Starter Handicap Fillies and mares, 3-year-olds & up, who have started for a claiming price of $8,000 or less since October 25, 2020, 7f. First preference to Maryland Million-certified horses. This is a starter/stakes.

*For horses certified to Maryland Million Ltd. Registered Maryland-breds that are not Maryland Million-sired will be able to pre-enter and race ONLY if the race has less than eight (8) Maryland Million-sired entries. See Pre-Entry book for additional details.

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